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MY HEAVENLY HOCKEY CLUB 4

AI MORINAGA

Ballantine Books

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Hana doesn't really care that she's flunking out of school, but her friends in the hockey club do. If Hana can't improve her grades, she'll be barred from playing on the team. Luckily, the cute boys of the Grand Hockey Club will do anything to help a teammate in distress!

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My Heavenly Hockey Club

4

Ai Morinaga

Translated and adapted by Athena and Alethea Nibley
Lettered by North Market Street Graphics

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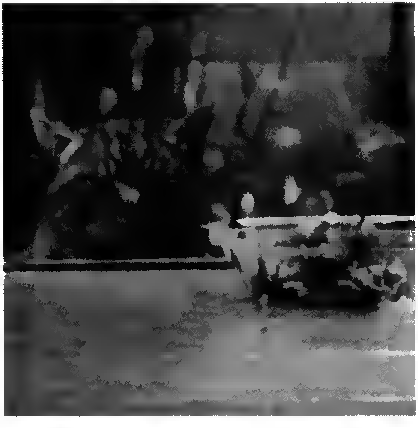


Bagel (a male so named because his tail is shaped like a bagel), whom I haven't seen lately, came back and is now shaped like a barrel. I think that, when it comes to animals, the fatter and furrier they are, the cuter they are. If I was an animal, I would be pretty cute, but regrettably, I am a human.

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!")

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

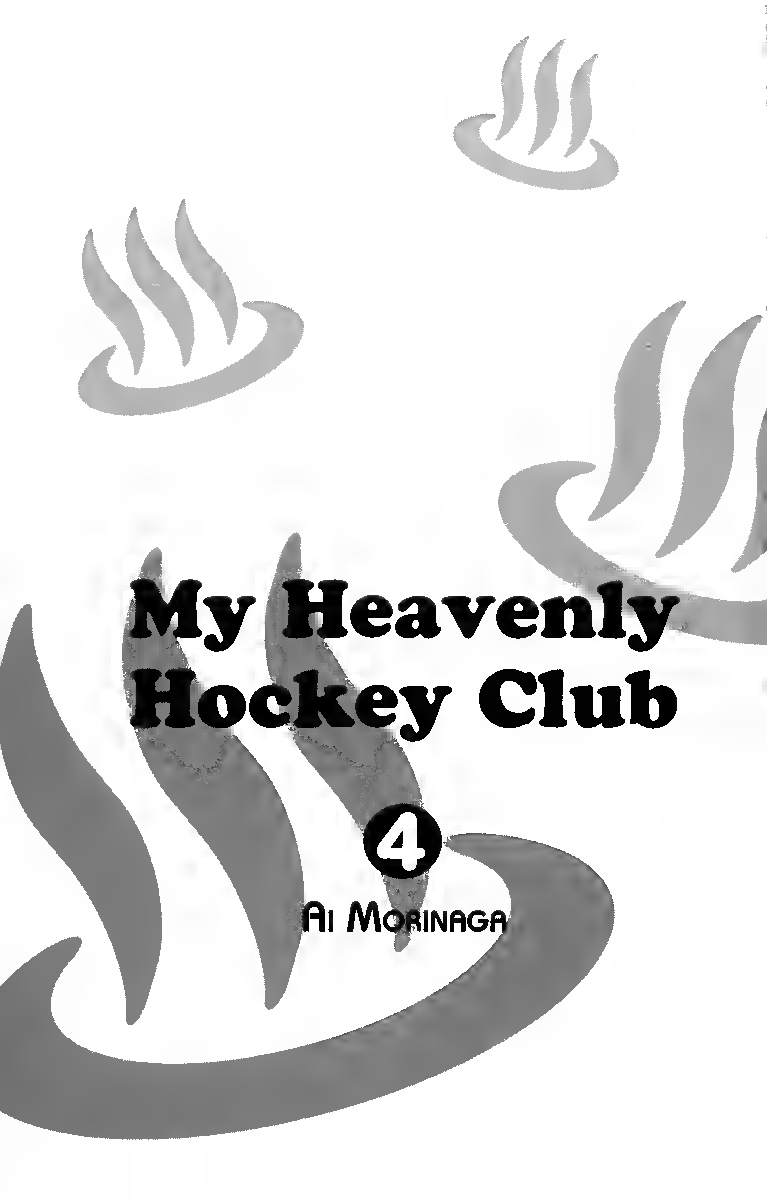
Bozu This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank] This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.



My Heavenly Hockey Club

4

Ai Morinaga

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Chapter 13: Exam Study in Hell

Hey, how did you do on the quiz?
All right, I guess.
What? I'm jealous. You're not worried?
I mean, the proficiency tests are at the end of the month. We have to start studying soon.
What are you doing, Hana?
Ah.

AAAAAAAAAHHHH!
What's this?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
Science Quiz
What is this!!?
Class 1-B, Seat 21, Hana Suzuki
3) Using examples, explain the difference between the structure of molecular crystals and covalent crystals. (20 Points)
Covalent crystals are hard.

How on Earth did you get such an *intensely bad* score?
I'm shocked you even got into this school!
Well, something had to be done about it.
Yeah.
13 points. It's bad luck.
How mean. You didn't have to tell everyone!
A maiden's secret.
Well, I've used up my savings from when I was taking entrance exams, and I've used up all my drive.
If you don't have the raw talent, put forth more effort!
Are you preparing for your lessons and then reviewing them after!?
I'm tired every day from being forced to go to the club!
Are you blaming your own stupidity on me!?
Stop calling me *stupid!*

FLINCH
WHOOMP
Shut up! What's wrong with calling a stupid person stup...
Hana-chan, even if it was a fluke, you did get into this school, so you can do it if you try.
Natsuki-sempai...
Izumi!
Are you okay!?
But she's sure in trouble.
If she keeps this up, she might not be able to recover after midterms.
So? She can just go through first year again.
Come on, Takashi.
That's not funny.
Repeating a grade...

I don't really care.
Yeah, well, if it happens, it happens.
If your grades are too bad, they make you stop going to club activities.
Eh!?
But we really do need to do something.
No!!
Hey, Hana. Starting today, you're studying.
Eeehhh~~?
It's almost time for the proficiency tests. It's perfect timing.
For now, she has a goal.
If we all work together, we can do it!
Hey, Takashi. You, too. Got it?
Well, it does make me uncomfortable to have a stupid person so nearby.
Can't be helped.

First of all, try this quiz again.
Ergh...
むぅ…
If you get red marks at midterms and finals, you'll have to take supplementary lessons—you'll have even less time to sleep.
You haven't even tried yet—what's with the pessimistic attitude!!?
Eehh? I only have a week. There's no possible way.
ROLLLLL
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
Question 1: J-a-L...
WHIP
There's no chemical formula like that!
That's an airline!!
How very brave.
Hana-chan, you're so manly...

That hurt! You don't have to hit me!
I don't know the answer!!
Shut up! At least review the problems you missed after the quiz!
Understand? Your goal is to get an average score!
Step one: You have to look the part.
We'll whip you into shape to make up for all your slacking up to now!!

Answer!!
Y-
Yes, sir.
Déjà vu.
STAGGER
Izumi-sempai! Hang in there!
Listen, Suzuki. Split the pencil in half lengthwise, curl up a cheat sheet, and put it in the middle...
Um, Takashi...
What are you teaching her now?
.....
Here, tell me what you don't understand.
I don't even know what I don't understand.

There is absolutely no way she'll get an average score!!
We'll have to start with the basics.
For now, learn these by tomorrow.
Eeehhh?
Why does your graph look like that!?
How many times do I have to tell you? We're talking about when x is greater than zero!
WHAP
Wrong!
Ow!

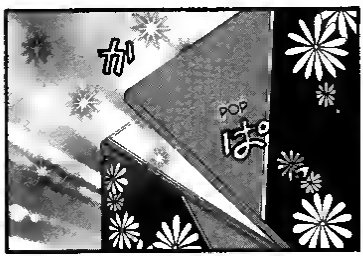
Please stop. If you hit me too much, I'll forget how to do the equations.
WHIP
Here, read the problem carefully one more time!
Yeah, yeah, yeah.
Let's see.
Say that when you actually know how to do them!

KNOCK
I have a delivery from Nanbu Department Store.
KNOCK
But when I look at numbers, I get so sleepy.
Don't fall asleep!!
CAMPUS

Yup.
You mean that classy Japanese restaurant?
Kitchô?
Thank you.
We are constantly in your debt. This is from Kitchô.
It looked like we'd be up late, so I ordered some *bentô*.
When you're done with that problem, let's take a break and eat, okay?

That's right. Except when the origin is zero.
Huh. Interesting. can it be...?
I did it!

Well, I am hungry, so let's eat.
Yay ♡


POP
はぁ

Wow, Hana, you *can* do it if you try!
Good job, good job.
Hana-chan, that's amazing!
Food, food
HUFF
はぁ
HUFF
はぁ

Uwaaahhh ♡
A steak bentô
it looks so good~~
I thought that my whole life I'd only ever get to look at classy restaurant bentô in the store. ♡♡
That's not yours, Hana-chan. This one's for you.
Eh?
DUN

We're making you smarter, so you have to get lots of DHA.
CHOP
Tuna eyes.
What is this?
We had it made specially for you, so eat all of it.
This bentô is delicious.
MM
Japanese beef really is the best kind.
MM
No! I want a steak bentô!
That's not fair, only you guys...!!
We didn't get 13 points on our tests.
We'll let you have some when you get average scores on your proficiency tests.
Ugh...

Good for you, Hana-chan.
Here. Hurry and eat and we'll get back to work.
Open your mouth
Steak bento
MMPH
Hana-chan, we made these to help you memorize stuff, so post them in your room. ♡
Don't just make up formulas!
Eehh? But maybe some of them might be right!
HISSS
There's no way they'd be right!!
WHIP
Ouch!
What's the formula for ammonia?
NH3
Good morning!
Morning!
TWITCH
S—
sin Θ / cos Θ
tan Θ =

SLAM
Th-the year 618!
The T'ang Dynasty started in...
.....
Keep the stalls clean
WHEW
ROLL
ROLL
I'm tired...
I'm gonna go take a nap in the nurse's office.
What's wrong? Are you okay?

ZZZZ
AAAAAAAAAAHHHH!
Suzuki-san!?
Oh, I've had such a curious dream!" sa
have, just been
Strange adventures of h
have, just been read
My belie
that he is
All these strange a
tower has stood there
view the coun
whole the society as
Seven wonders of
By virtue of hard s

Verbs
I don't care. Today I'm slacking off.
No more. They're always watching me. I can't even take a nap.
.....
Suzuki Tofu
Don't fall asleep without even changing your clothes! I told you to do the problems from last year's test!
Hana, phone!
RRRRR
SNORE
Hana, dinner!
We got lots of food from Izumi-kun. ♡
Where is he!?

Unnngh
あー
She can express h
devoted hus
cancer-regen
Then he'd
in America,
rights of it
TWITCH
TWITCH
TWITCH
have neve
my name b
until I was f
ter had been
was walk
talking
to himself
Earnest
真剣
Hello!
Big Brother
Big Brother
兄

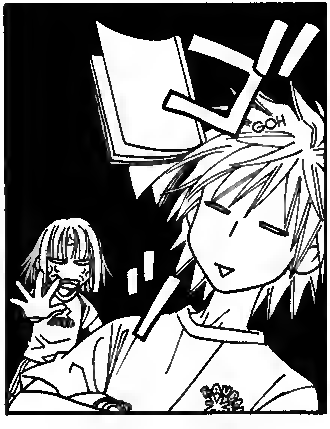
Tomorrow is the proficiency test, so we came for one last cram session.
Oh, my.
Welcome!
What are you all doing here?
Where's Hana-chan?
I called for her, but there was no answer.
I don't mind, so would you please go wake her?
Pardon our intrusion!
DOH
Hey, Hana. Wake up!
Today is the last sprint! We're studying until morning.
POUND
SILENCE
We brought the chestnut yōkan you've been wanting to eat!
KACHA
REACH

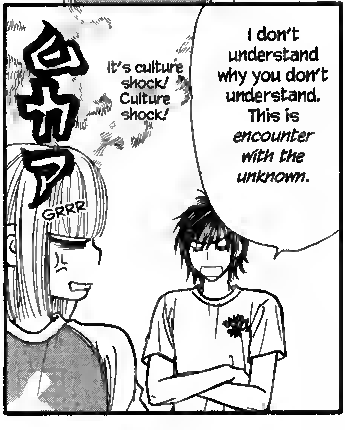
Please go away! I can't do it anymore! Today I'm going to rest in preparation for tomorrow!
Sunday is the day of rest! Even though my family is Jodo Shinshu!
What are you doing? Open up! Now!
GAH
Ouch!
KAPOW
Cut the crap! You're in terrible shape! This is no time to take it easy!
You can yell at me, but my brain is overloaded!
Are you even trying!?
How can you do a problem once and then forget how to do it the next day!?

Damn right!

KNOCK
KNOCK
Hey!
Please stop that!
Is someone in there?
You haven't learned enough to be overloaded.
What on Earth do you keep inside there?
I'm not a bathroom stall!

I'm just stupid. People who can do it wouldn't understand!


GOH


I don't understand why you don't understand. This is *encounter with the unknown.*
It's culture shock! Culture shock!
GRRR

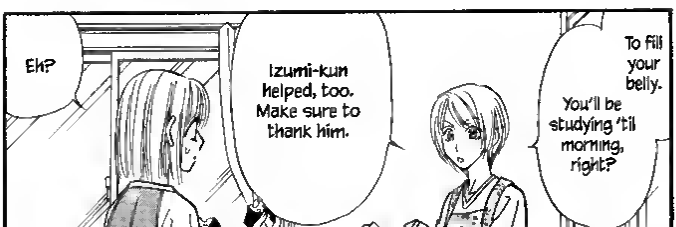
I never asked you to teach me anything, so why do I have to listen to you be so mean!?
That hurt! What'd you do that for?
I'm giving up my day off to help you! How dare you talk to me like that!
I don't care if you're held back a year! But don't you care about not being allowed to do club activities anymore!?
I can't take it anymore! I don't care if I have to take supplementary lessons or get held back a year. I'm through with studying!!
I didn't join your club because I wanted to! I don't care about club activities!
DARA

Hana-chan!
Hana?
DARAHHH
And I don't care if I never get to eat a steak bentō!!
SLAM!
Sorry...
I'm sure she'll get hungry and come out soon.
I'm sorry about Hana.
Hana-chan, you don't need to lock yourself in the bathroom.
Hey, Suzuki! Get out of there!
Go away!
KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
.....

Why should I?
Why don't you apologize to Hana-chan, too?
What will you do if she really can't come to club anymore?
Ergh...
I shouldn't have locked myself in the bathroom of all places.
I can't calm down.
Steak Bentō

Excuse me for being so stupid. I give you culture shock.
GR
You didn't even know how to use a gas stove.
GR
I don't care about the test anymore.
SNIFFLE
But I did want to eat a steak *bentô*.
GRUMBLE
I'm hungry...
I wonder what time it is.
PEER

Oh, Hana. Out already?
CLACK
Where are Izumi-sempai and the others?
Your room.
Hmm.
I'm hungry.
This girl.
Here, eat.
What is it?
So unorthodox...


To fill your belly.
You'll be studying 'til morning, right?
Izumi-kun helped, too. Make sure to thank him.
Eh?

Umm...
!

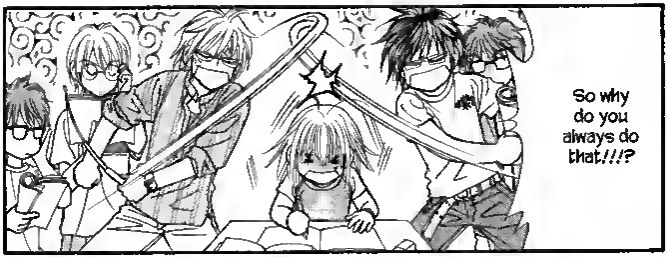
.....

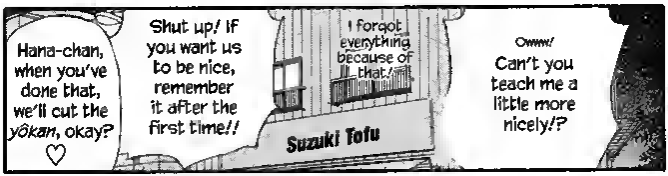
Where is everyone?
Hana...

Convenience store.
That really was fast.
Steak honto
Well, I was hungry.
If you don't like it, don't eat it./
It alternates between no salt at all and clumps of salt.
I couldn't help it. It was my first time making those.
Your fingers.
What happened?
No, that's not what I meant.
How do they get like that making onigiri?

Hey, Hana.
We have a long break after the tests.
Want to have an away game and go somewhere with everybody?
.....
SCRATCH

Please throw in a steak *bentô*.
どが
CLUNK
CLUNK
Raahh! Hana-chan, you're out!
That was fast.
If you get an average score.
Go for average scores!
Go for an average score!!
Do your best, Hana-chan!
Then let's get started!

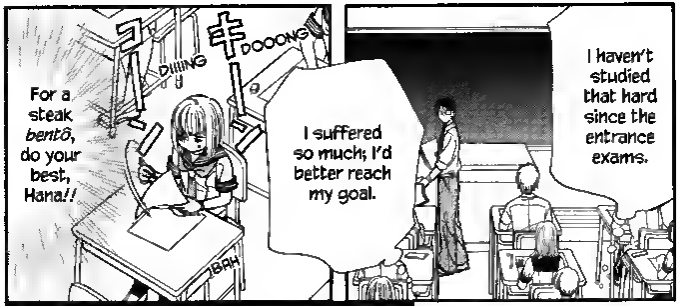

So why do you always do that!!!?

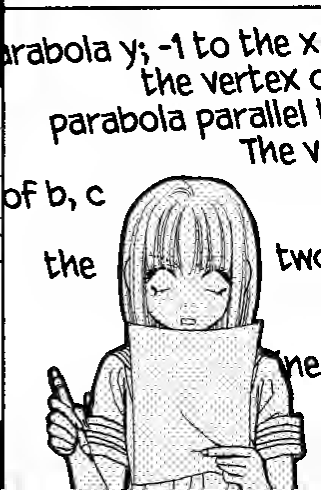

Hana-chan, when you've done that, we'll cut the yôkan, okay? ♡
Shut up! If you want us to be nice, remember it after the first time!!
I forgot everything because of that!
Suzuki Tofu
Owww!
Can't you teach me a little more nicely!?

GLOOM
どよん
GLINT
キラーン

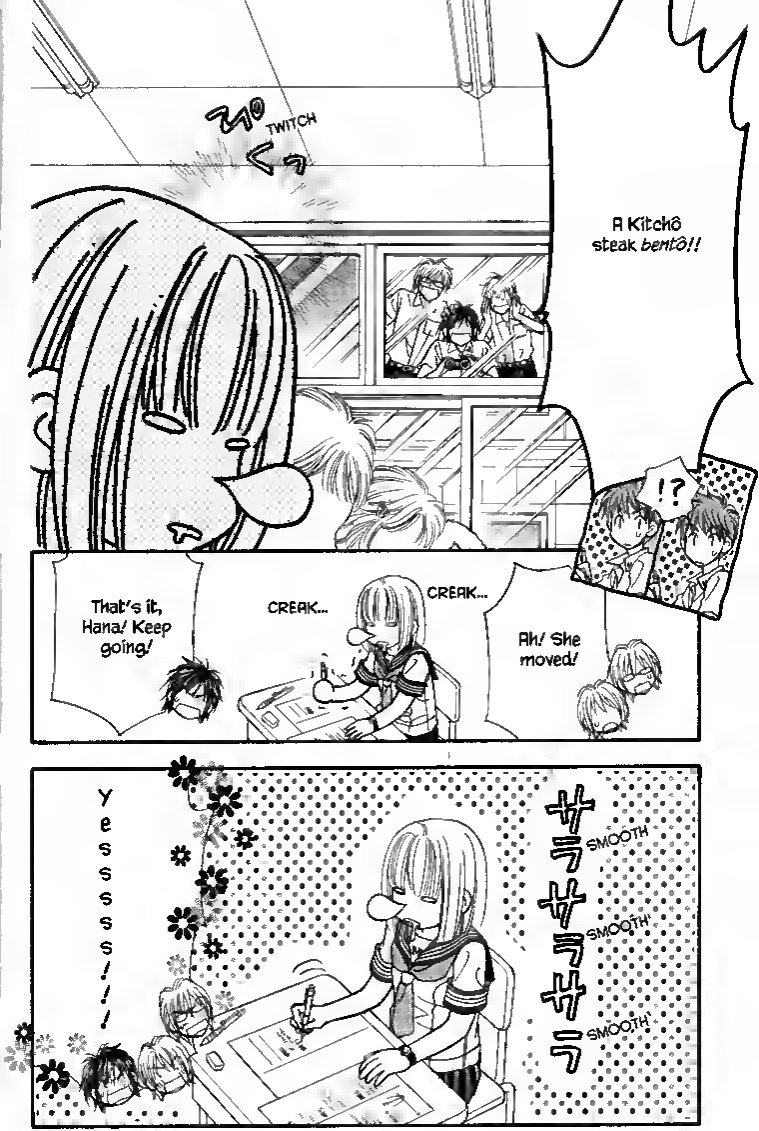
Hana, those are crazy circles under your eyes, and your face is all oily. Are you okay?
GLINT
I'm okay, I'm okay. I'm perfectly all right. ♡
Perfe...
ZZZZZ
Are... Are you really okay...?
Really, really.
Hang in there, Hana!!
STRAIN
STRAIN
WINCE
STRAIN
GIRI
GIRI
Izumi, how is Hana-chan doing?

She worked so hard, I'm sure she'll be okay.
She's getting along for now.

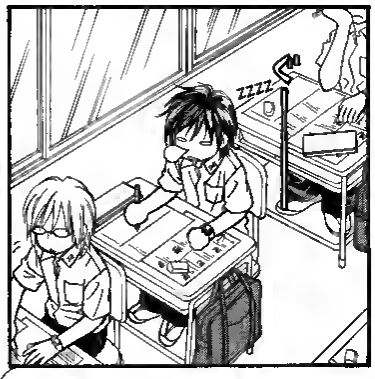

DOOONG
DIIIING
For a steak *bentō*, do your best, Hana!!
I suffered so much; I'd better reach my goal.
I haven't studied that hard since the entrance exams.


arabola y; -1 to the x
the vertex o
parabola parallel
The v
of b, c
the
two
ne

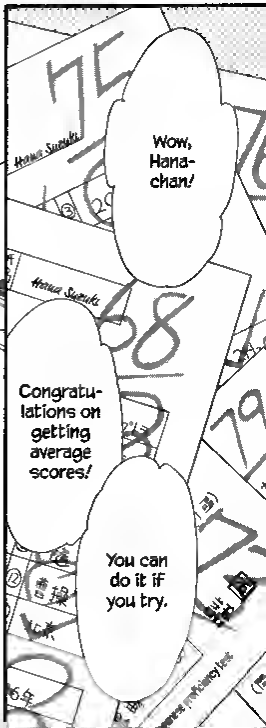
Hana!?
Hana, what are you doing? Wake up!
Hana-chan!
It's no good. She can't hear us.
Once she's asleep she won't wake up.
At this rate, you'll get a zero!
This is no time to be saying that!
Open your eyes, stupid!
Do you want to waste all our hard work!?

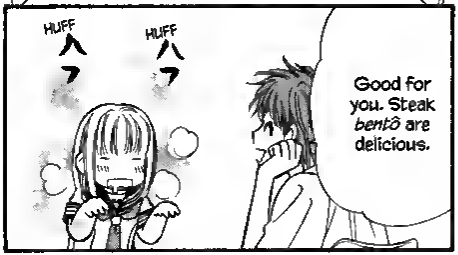

TWITCH
A Kitchô steak bentô!!
!?
That's it, Hana! Keep going!
CREAK...
CREAK...
Ah! She moved!
Yesssss!!
SMOOTH
SMOOTH
SMOOTH

You can do it, Hana-chan!
Good job, Hana! Keep it up!
Yeah.
She has to achieve our goal. We worked really hard.
For us.
スラスラ
スラリ
SMOOTH
SMOOTH
SMOOTH
Oh, good. It looks like we're okay now.
That's stupid. Don't put me on Hana's level.
We have to do our best, too.
It'll be a piece of cake!


ZZZZ

Work hard like this for your midterms, too, okay?
I haven't gotten an average score since middle school. It feels good---
Eh heh heh. It was thanks to all of you. Thank you.


Wow, Hana-chan!
Congratulations on getting average scores!
You can do it if you try.


HUFF
HUFF
Good for you. Steak bentô are delicious.

Izumi-sempai.
I really am thankful for what you did, Izumi-sempai.
So please don't be so depressed.
You can just try harder next time.
12 points.
PFF
Shut up! Whose fault do you think it is!!?
Here, Izumi. A snack.
You don't get a steak *bentô* after all!!
EeeHhh!? That's mean!
That's not mature, Izumi.
But on my next quiz, I got 11 points.
SHOCK

The End

Chapter 14: Searching for Love

はら
FLUTTER
はら
FLUTTER
DRRRRRZE
ぼー
SIIIIIGH
はー
……

Wha?
Autumn is so poignant.
Izumi-sempai.
Hey, you two! Do you even want to be here!?
Ayuhara
Love at first sight!?
I've seen her every morning on my way to school lately.
Wow! What are they like?
MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH
はぐ はぐ はぐ
St. Johannes Girls' Academy? That school for super-rich girls?

It's unusual these days to see such a pure and innocent girl.
Like a single daisy blooming in a field.
So you fell in love with the same girl? You really are twins.
No, they're twins, too.
Eeehhh!?
Twins!?

Of course we do.
You haven't even talked to them. Do you know which one each of you likes?
.....
Izumi-sempai, can you even tell us apart?
Dunno.
They don't know, do they?
haven't seen them.
We were just joking, but...!!
Eeeeehhh!?
Well, don't just sit here staring into space. Go talk to them or something.

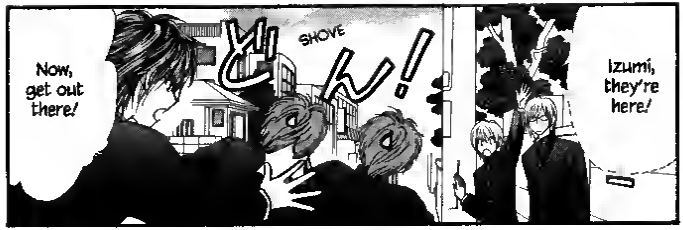
Why can't you tell us apart? We're so different!!
You're exactly the same!
What are you saying? Even our faces are different!
My eyes are brighter!
Izumi-sempai's mean, huh, Hana-chan?
Let's see...
GLANCE
Older.
Younger.
So? Are you going to tell them how you feel?
Now, now
Ayuhara
Ayuhara

IRKED
イラ
IRKED
イラ
If some guys they don't know suddenly told them they liked them, they might run away.
FIDGET
もじ
FIDGET
もじ
We...
We couldn't do that. Tell them our feelings...
TURN
Izumi-sempai!
All right, fine.
I've got no choice. I'll help you out.
Man, you guys are pathetic!
And you call yourselves men!?
Leave it to me!
MUNCH
ぱく
MUNCH
ぱく
Wow, Izumi, you're so dependable!

Wow, they're exactly alike.
They really are a rare type these days.
That's St. Johannes for you. They're the exact opposite of someone I know.
They're as cute as ever.
ZZZZZ
They wouldn't fall asleep on a roadside, even by mistake.
Well?
Who likes who?
The one on the left.
I like the one on the right.

They look the same to me.
Do you get brain waves or something, since you're all twins?
Don't you think the one on the right/left is cuter!?
Well, whatever.
Are you both ready?

Will this really work?
What are you saying?! Everyone knows you *crash into her from around the corner with bread in your mouth!*


Izumi, they're here!
SHOVE
Now, get out there!

DARRAHH!
BADUMP
BADUMP
BADUMP
TURN
We can't do it!!
K-KICK
I told you to get out there!!

Hup!
KAPOW!
DOH
DO
Hup!
Ah.
TWITCH
Hup!
Wait!
Hey, you okay!?
B-earthquake!?
Hup
...ow
Owowowow!
Umm...
Are you all right?

Ah...
B-BMP
キュ

If they keep that up, it might work.
Good luck! Older, younger!
BLUSH
U-um, we, that is—
I'm Ginta Ryuhara!
N—
Nice to meet you! I'm Kinta Ryuhara!
SHOOT
Please, use this.
Oh no! You're bleeding.

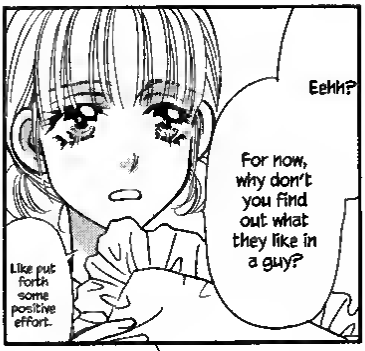
Here.
ZZZZZ
It wasn't an earthquake.
Yesssssssss!!!

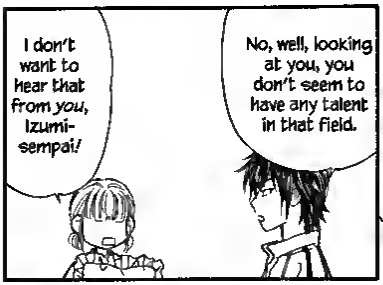
And they like the opposite.
and I like the younger sister, Ran-chan.
I like the older sister, Rin-chan
That's right.
Eeehh? You got the wrong ones?

Why did it have to turn out like this?
We managed to make plans to see them again on Sunday, but...

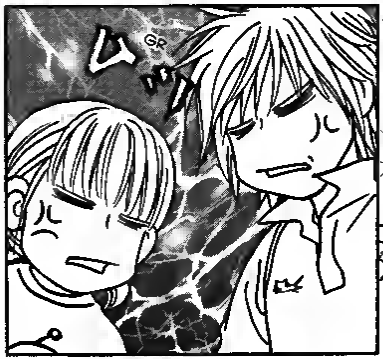
Yes, they are!!
What's your problem? They're not that different from each other.

Really?
What the heck were you looking at!?
They don't look anything alike!
No.
They really aren't that different, are they?
No, Rin-chan's is!
And Ran-chan's face is cuter.
Rin-chan is more laid back, while Ran-chan is more spaced out.
Might as well get a girl's opinion.
Hey, Hana-chan, what do you think?
Oh, what should we do?
……
We don't have the same taste in girls at all!
Ah ha ha ha ha
Good thing!


Eehh?
For now, why don't you find out what they like in a guy?
Like put forth some positive effort.


I don't want to hear that from you, Izumi-sempai!
No, well, looking at you, you don't seem to have any talent in that field.

What's that supposed to mean?
I thought it would be pointless asking Hana-chan, but now I'm glad we did!
Oohh, I get it!


GR

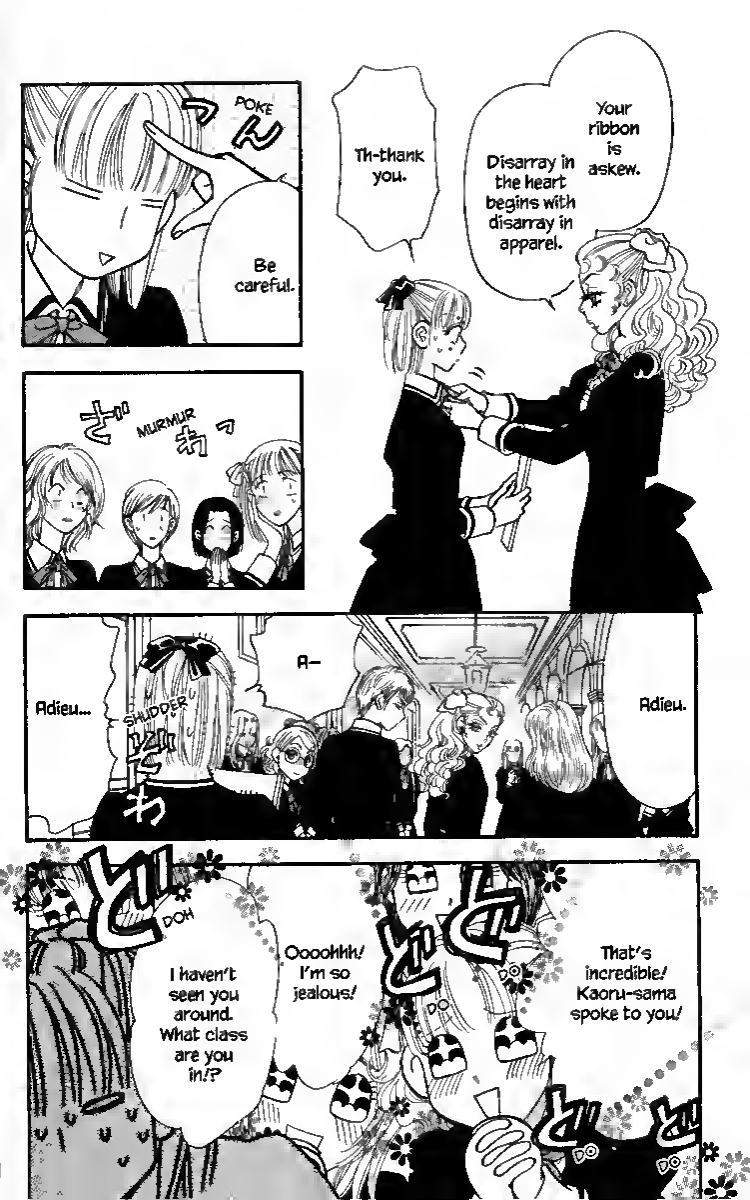
Izumi-sempai!
All right. We'll pitch in help the twins out one more time.
She's right. It's not uncommon to talk to someone and find out they're different than your first impression.
Eh!?
Hana! You infiltrate St. Johannes and find out what type of guys the sisters like!
Fish with Human Face
We'll get a uniform for you so they won't find you out, so stop whining and go.
What are you saying? This is for your team-mates.
And doesn't that make me the one pitching in to help the twins?
Eeehh~~? No, I don't want to. It's such a pain.

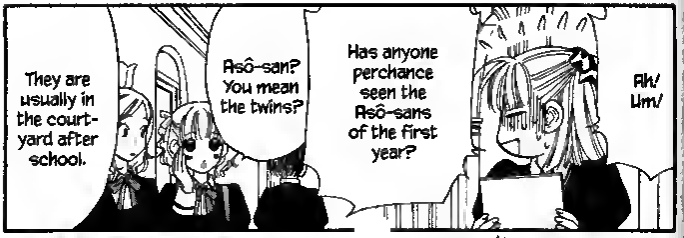
How nice! Sounds like fun!
The St. Johannes uniforms are so prim and cute.
In that case, why don't you do it, Natsuki-sempai?
If Natsuki did it, he would stand out too much.
He's ill-suited for investigations.
We want someone plain-looking. Someone plain, who won't stand out!
To blend in!
Would you stop calling an adolescent maiden plain over and over!?
Yes, I know I'm plain!
Hana-chan, we're begging you.
The spring-time of our youth depends on it!
Y-
You can say that, but...
Tch. I wish they hadn't said that.

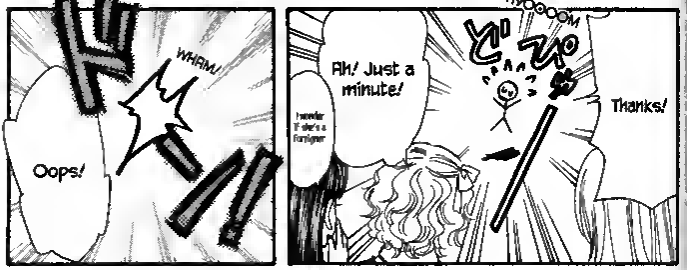
'Kay?
Please?
"Kay"?
Guys...
Ugh...

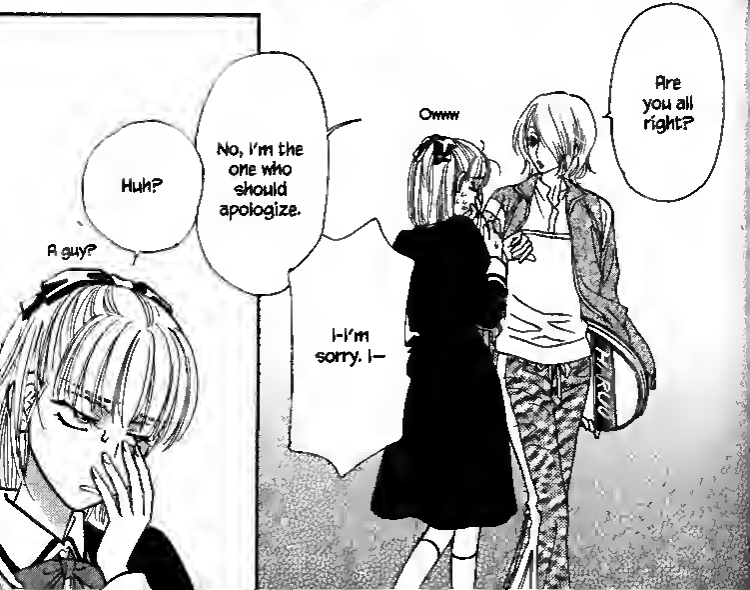
How do you do?
How do you do?
School bell (hand bells)
CHIRING
CHIRING
My...
My butt itches, I'm so out of place...

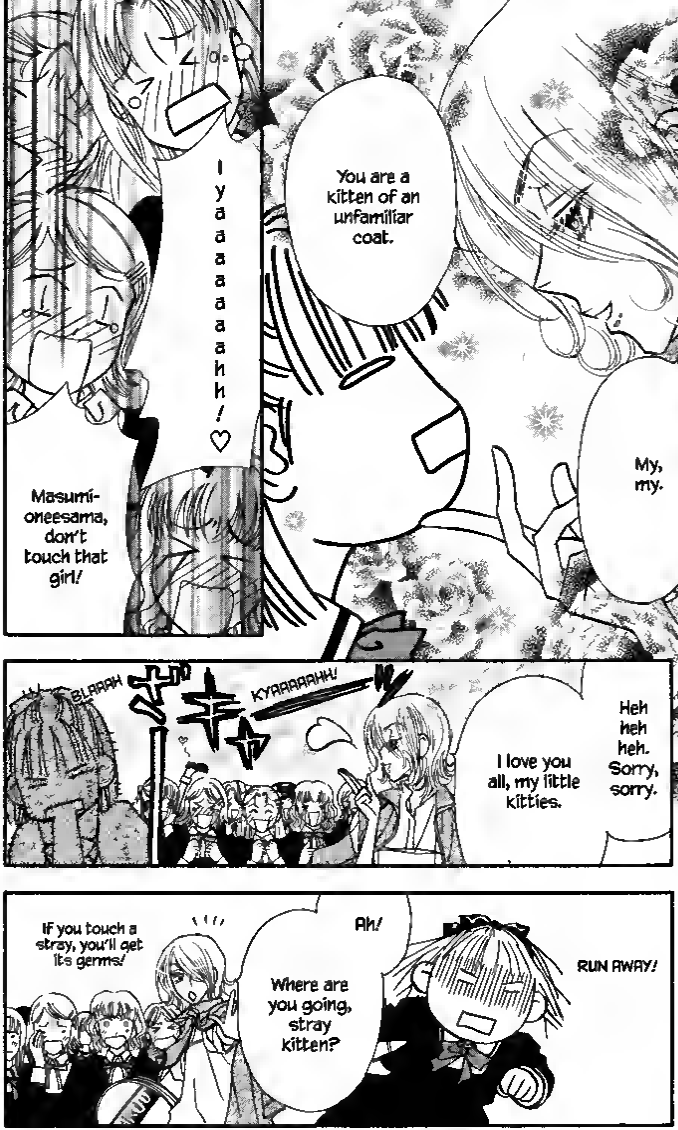
Good luck!
Izumi-senpai and the others keep saying it's for the twins.
But I know they just think this is funny.
Their eyes were laughing!
But this school is just as prestigious as ours, but it's completely different.
Kyaaaa♡
It's the ladies from the White Rose Committee!
DOK!
DOK!
That's an all-girls' school for you
Hana Report
How do you do, Kaoru-sama?
White Rose Committee?
They have a mysterious aura.
They're so wonderful.
Y-yes!?
FLINCH
Oh. You.


POKE
Be careful.
Th-thank you.
Your ribbon is askew.
Disarray in the heart begins with disarray in apparel.
MURMUR
A—
Adieu...
SHUDDER
Adieu.
DOH
I haven't seen you around. What class are you in!?
Oooohhh! I'm so jealous!
That's incredible! Kaoru-sama spoke to you!
DO


Ah! Um!
Has anyone perchance seen the Asô-sans of the first year?
Asô-san? You mean the twins?
They are usually in the court-yard after school.


Thanks!
Ah! Just a minute!
I wonder if she's a foreigner
WOOOOOSH
WHAM!
Oops!


Are you all right?
Owww
No, I'm the one who should apologize.
Huh?
I-I'm sorry. I—
A guy?

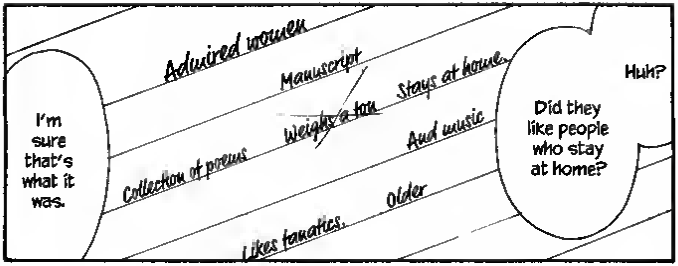

Masumi-oneesama, don't touch that girl!
Iyaaaaaaahh!♡
You are a kitten of an unfamiliar coat.
My, my.
Heh heh heh. Sorry, sorry.
I love you all, my little kitties.
KYAAAAHH!
BLAAAH
If you touch a stray, you'll get its germs!
Ah!
Where are you going, stray kitten?
RUN AWAY!

There really are people like this in girls' schools!
I thought it was just a joke.
It's no good. I just can't fit in here!
I'd better do what I came here to do and get out of here!!
ほう…
SIGH
Kaoru-sama and Masumi-sama are both as wonderful as ever.
It's true...
うっとり
DREAMY
There!
But really, Kinta-san is more wonderful.
No, Ginta-san is!
The sisters like that stuff, too?

What will we do, Ran-chan?
My mind is so full thinking about Sunday that I haven't made any progress on my manuscript for the literature club.
I know, sister. This is the first time we've met men outside, after all.
Mm.
む
PERK
ぴくっ

Poems by Heine
We only ever stay at home, reading books.
Bookish girls, huh?
Ginta-san and his brother said they're in the hockey club.
It's wonderful when men devote themselves to one thing, isn't it?

Mm, mm.
ふ ふ ん ん
I wonder what we should wear.
They like people who devote themselves to one thing.
Stay at home.
Yes.
Say, why not look at some dresses on the way home?
Then, may we stop by the music shop, as well? There is some sheet music I want.
Phew. I'm glad that went faster than I expected.
All right, this should do it!
I really do prefer my life.
Their taste in men is completely opposite... there.
But it's good that we have completely different taste in men, isn't it?
Tee hee hee.



Judging from all of this, let's see...
It's hard to read like this. I'll have to sum up.
Probably.
Come to think of it, I think the younger one said she likes curly hair.

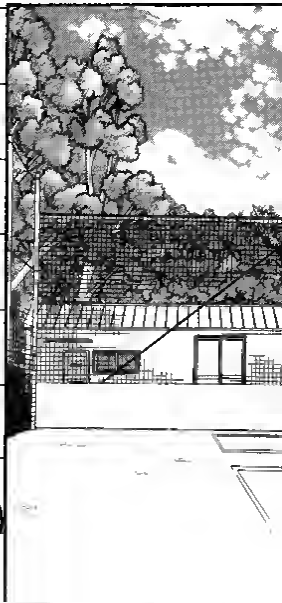
Hana Report

Favorite type of man

Older --> Akiba type

Younger --> Minstrels

That is all!



Good work.
Excellent, Hana! You've done well!
Eh, heh heh. Sure thing!
Thank you, Hana-chan! We'll do our best!!
I think.
I worked really hard and gathered the perfect information, so you'll be absolutely okay!
Not to worry!
We don't know anything about those--
But Akiba-type and minstrels, huh?

I will use all the power of the Oda Family to transform you!
Izumi-sempai!
We'll help, too.
Right, Takashi?
Of course.

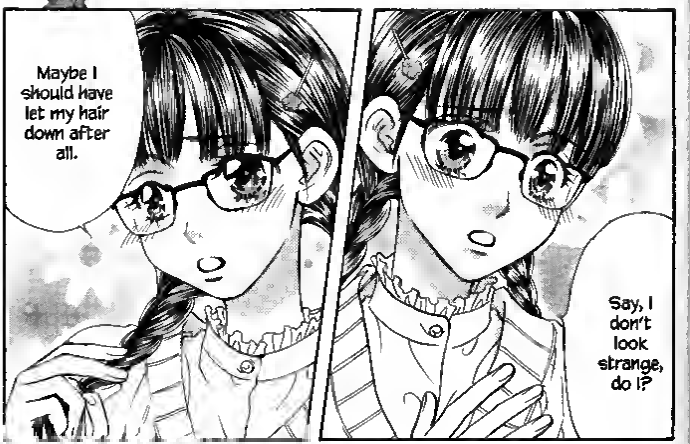
Twin TransFormation

双子とプロデュース

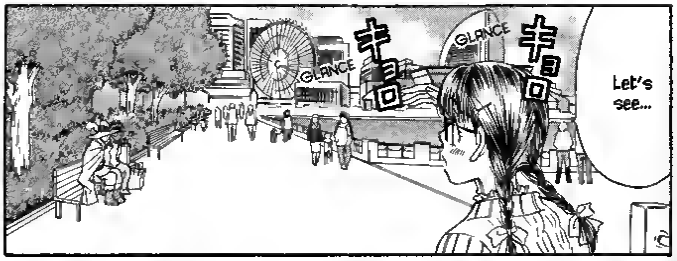
Leave it to us!
Listen up, guys! Romance is all about acting.
If you're gonna do it, do it right! Aim for the perfect Akiba type and minstrel!
Yeah!!
Springtime of youth.

Curly hair
Welcome!
I welcome you home! No contractions.
Yeah!

SHUT
バタン
Wait, sister!
Hurry, hurry!


Maybe I should have let my hair down after all.
Say, I don't look strange, do I?

Last time, we were in our uniforms.
The idea of meeting them in their regular clothes makes me nervous.
Tee hee hee hee
He looks great with the stand-up collar, but I'm sure Kinta-san will look wonderful in regular clothes, too.
No, Ginta-san will, of course!


キョロ
GLANCE
キョロ
GLANCE
Let's see...

Oh, good. It looks like they're not here yet.

Huh?
Please wait, Señorita.

STRUM
ポロ
H–
Hello.
TYPE 100
Ladies...
How do you do? Where do you go?

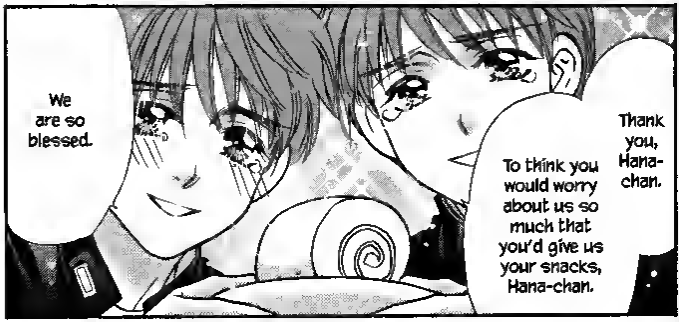
STA
タタタタタタ
TA
くるっ
TURN
Why, oh why~~~ Do you run from me~? I have waited for so looong! My fragile heart is breaking~~~
DAAAAAHH
Kin-chan!
You're here!!
WOOF WOOF
Wait!
Kyaaahh! Kyaaaah!

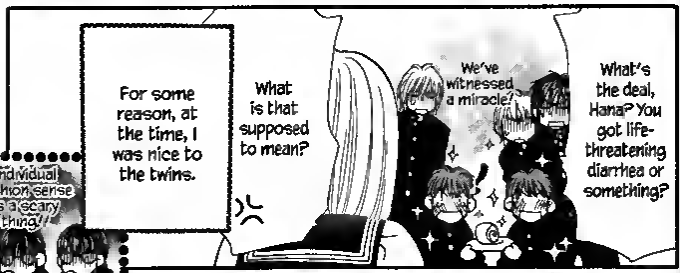
Where did we go wrong...?

SOB
SOB
SOB
Right, Hana?
That's weird. We were their perfect ideals.
Y-yeah...

Hana-chan...
You can have this, so cheer up.
Uh, um.

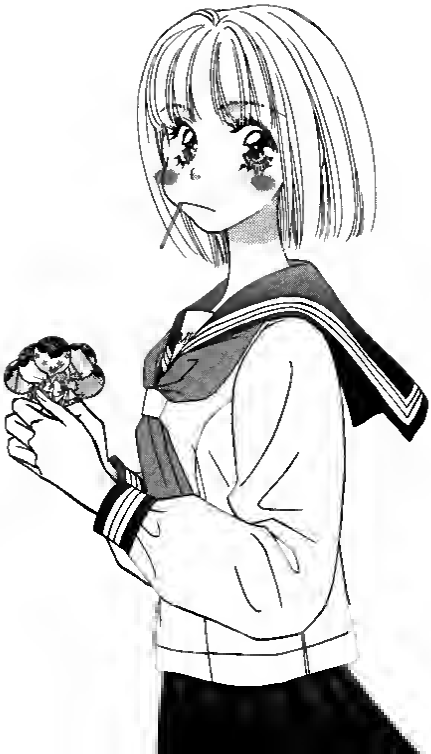
Maybe I got something wrong?


We are so blessed.
To think you would worry about us so much that you'd give us your snacks, Hana-chan.
Thank you, Hana-chan.

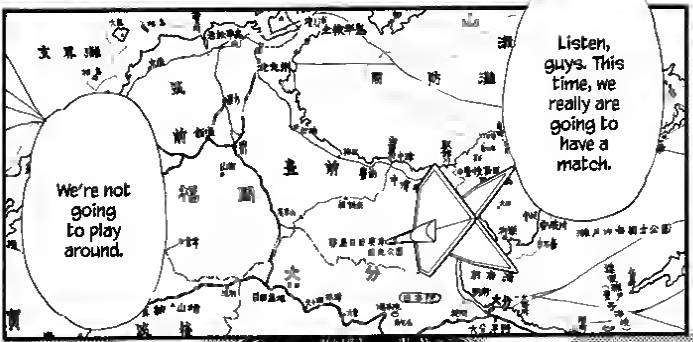

For some reason, at the time, I was nice to the twins.
What is that supposed to mean?
We've witnessed a miracle!
What's the deal, Hana? You got life-threatening diarrhea or something?

Individual fashion sense is a scary thing!

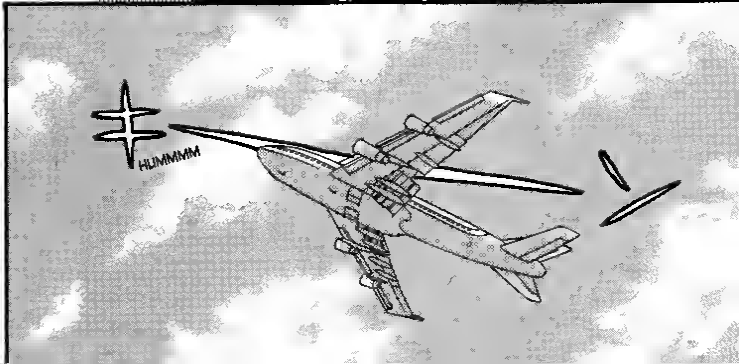
The End



Chapter 15: Operation Hot Springs Egg!

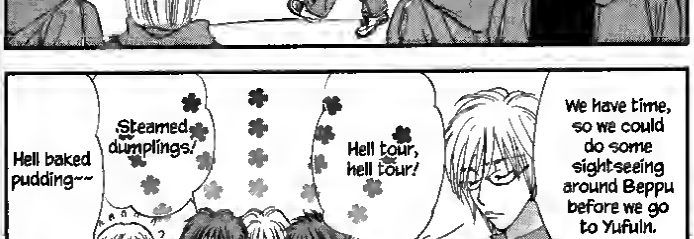

Listen, guys. This time, we really are going to have a match.
We're not going to play around.

We're going for our first victory!
This is a hockey manga, after all!


HUMMMM

Betsubu General Hospital
I guess there was something in the breakfast we had at training camp~~
And here you came all this way. We're so sorry...
BLEAGH
It shook.
Afraid of heights

CLAAANG
It's still afternoon, so why is the sun setting...?


We have time, so we could do some sightseeing around Beppu before we go to Yufuin.
Hell tour, hell tour!
Steamed dumplings!
Hell baked pudding~~

Hey, Izumi. Let's go!
Ah, cool! This is great!
"So delicious that eating it will add seven years to your life, the elusive hot springs egg!"
PERK
Yufuin

"The elusive chicken may or may not lay one egg a day, so get there early!" it says.
Now, let's finish sightseeing and get to Yufuin!
.....
These sticks are in the way right now, so we'll just send them back!

Whoa—
So this is the chicken that lays the elusive hot springs eggs—
At the time she lays it, it's a normal egg.
Oh, I see!
Cool! Her pen is complete with air conditioning!
That kinda ticks me off...
And a plasma TV!
GLANCE
Because this is the only hen that lays eggs that will become elusive hot springs eggs.
Oooohhh
HMPH
I don't like her...
ふーん

UNEXPECTED
ばったり
Here it is, this is the place.
Has she already laid an egg today?
Well...
Ōta the Elder (tennis club), see volume 2
What are you guys doing here!?
That's my line!!

Family trip...
Erk...
We are using our vacation to go on a family trip.
Could it be you're having an away game? Have you finally won a match?
GULP
That means the stomach pillow is with you!
Hey, Hana! I bought you a bed, didn't I!?
Who are you calling a stomach pillow!!?
Don't go calling people's little brothers your pillow!!
H—
TIMID
TIMID
Hello...
Elisabetta

Who's that?
The stomach pillow.
B-Brother..
That's mean...
E-
Eeeeehhhh!?
I...I went through
A lot of fear and shock, and lost weight...
Well, he is at an age where he would be sensitive to that.
That would hurt him pretty bad.
.....
No way!
Your little brother!?

Yup, all wrong.
As a girl, Hana-chan is doing things all wrong.
Whew
No longer interested
Huh?
Hana, you did a good thing.
IRK
Shut up. I wasn't asking you.
IRK
IRK
Hey! I was here first!
About that.
Excuse me, where is the elusive hot springs egg?
Oh yeah. On to business.
I'm sorry. She's rather difficult.
Ugh, you're so annoying! Get out of here, all of you!
GAH
GAH
GAH
GAH
GAH
GAH
BASH
BASH
クケー
JUMP
BAKAWK!

Hot springs egg...
But I was so looking forward to it.
Izumi-sempai, cheer her up and make her lay an egg.
Why do I have to cheer up a chicken!?
Recently, she has been in a foul mood and won't lay any eggs.
Whaaaah?
I'm tired of laying eggs just so they can be eaten.
If I get her to lay an egg, may I be the one to eat it?
By all means.
Hey, wait! I told you I was here first!
Elisabetta
I thought you didn't want to cheer up a chicken.
It's better than letting you eat something I can't!

All right, fine.
Then it's a *contest* to see who can make her lay an egg first.
Just what I wanted!

Then, we're off to see the sights. Good luck.
Ah! Guys!
This *nama tofu* looks good.
I'm interested in this roll cake!
Me too. ♡
Local *oyako-don* ♡
Bururu: Yahoo, Bayas

You're staying here!
GAH
B-bring me back something!

You sound like a manga artist who says that when going to the convenience store after an all-nighter.
To lay good eggs, you need moderate exercise.
You can't just lie around in your room.
BAKAWK!
Come on.
What is this? Let go! It's too bright out here! My eyes hurt!
FLAP
FLAP
DADAAAAH
PI
PI
Man, you're hopeless.
Hey! What are you doing?
It feels nice being outside, doesn't it? Now come on, run.
I hate working up a sweat.
HMPH

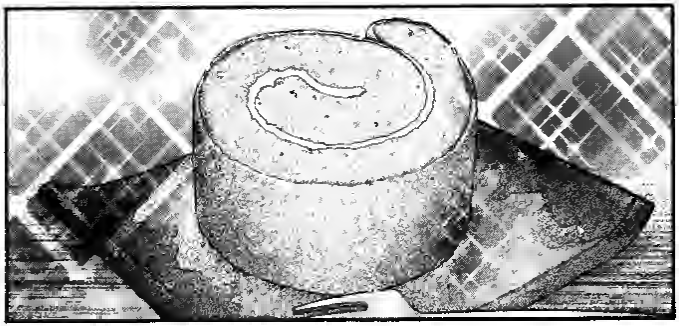
Drink this and build your stamina.
KERPLOP
KERPLOP
KERPLOP
For a chicken, you have no stamina. Because you live in that fancy room doing nothing.
ゼェ
ゼェ
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
What is this? You've still got lots of energy!
Don't make me into a cannibal!
You have no consideration!
KICK
KICK
KICK
Really, what are you doing?
At that rate, you'll only give her more stress.

I prefer WaT.
At times like these, the best thing to do is listen to classical music and enrich your mind.
The Vienna Philharmonic, conducted by Myung-Whun Chung.
Dvorak 3rd and 7th symphonies
Dvořák
Eh!?
If you want a little guy
How about this?
ERGH
Teppei Koike
What was that!?
B-Brother.
HMPH
It's okay if she doesn't like me!
Why not? Everything in life is experience.
I don't like glasses.
Why you! You trying to make my little brother seduce a chicken!?

BAKAWK
You really can't have just one female chicken, after all.
We've gathered lots of sexy males, so she'll start to want to whether she likes it or not.
I win this contest.
BAWK
BAWK
BAWK
BAKAWK
BAKAWK
BAWK
BAWK
BAWK
BAWK
OHOHOH
Erk...

Don't insult me, White Leghorns! You could bring at least one long-tailed cock!
.....
Izumi! You okay!?
PFF

WHAM!

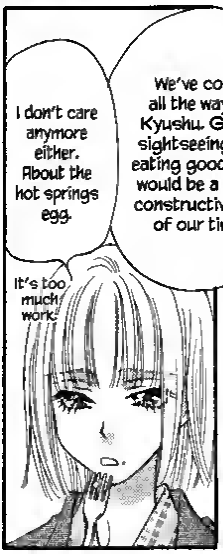


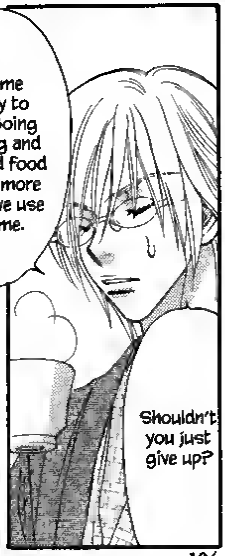
DAAAAAHH
Well?
Does it look like she'll lay an egg for you?

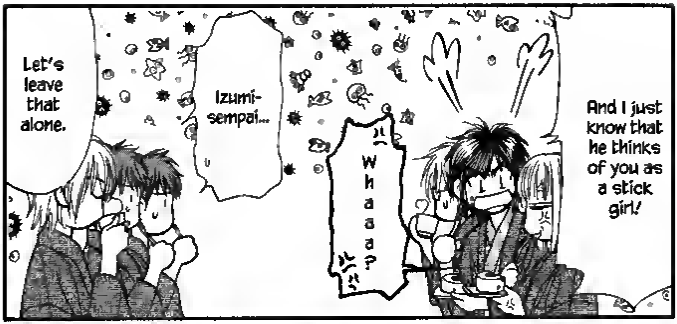
Well, good luck.
I see.
.....
GRR
GRR

If it's the last thing I do, I'll make her lay an egg and eat it right in front of her.

What are you saying? I can't back down now!


I don't care anymore either. About the hot springs egg.
It's too much work.


We've come all the way to Kyushu. Going sightseeing and eating good food would be a more constructive use of our time.
Shouldn't you just give up?


Let's leave that alone.
Izumi-sempai...
Whaaa?
And I just know that he thinks of you as a stick girl!

Elisabetta

How's this!?

How much did you spend?
In this situation, I'll spare no expense!
That's a natural, isn't it?
HOP

I had him rushed over from Kôchi.
Now you have nothing to complain about!

HUFF
But he's not what I thought he'd be...

His tail is so long.
I've never seen the real thing before.

I did it!
CLENCH

GAH
GAH
Stay away from me!
GAH
GAH
GAH
GAH
GAH
Waahh!
I came all the way from Kōchi.
H-hey.
I hate men who don't know when to quit
Aahh! His precious tail!
I've never even been pecked by my father...!
I finally got them to lend him to me!
Wh-what the hell are you doing!?
If she doesn't like classical music, then what about beer?
It's my turn, then.
MUTTER
MUTTER
Sigh. I wish I'd gone out to eat good food with Natsuki-sempai and the others.
SLURSHH
I wonder how many hot springs eggs he could buy with that much money.
It really is completely hopeless.

Here.
WHIP
Buh!
H-Hana! You okay!?
Hey, don't lick the beer!
Don't compare me with a cow.
Wipe it off!
Hana-chan, did she lay an egg?
We came to visit you at the warfront.

ズ
POKE
ブッ

BAKAWK!
ばっさ
FLAP
ばっさ
FLAP
Wh-what are you doing!? Hana, you—
Don't stick your fingers in there!
.....
What do you mean, maiden? You lay eggs like nobody's business!
I...I can't believe this! What are you doing? To an unwed maiden...
You've injured me!

Hey, Hana! Cut it out!
Well, you're not laying eggs, either!
KICK
Ow!
Ow!
KICK
KICK
You can't even lay eggs, human! The audacity!
Why do you think I put up with her for so long!?
Here, here. Help yourself.
Really, I just want to drink some Dom Pérignon and calm my nerves.
I did, too
SMART
SMART
Why are you stopping me?
Who cares about stupid old hot springs eggs anymore?
Don't wipe your fingers on my haori!
CRASH

It's not rosé.
Who the hell do you think you are, dammit!!!?
This contest is over.
Yeah.
Oda.
.....

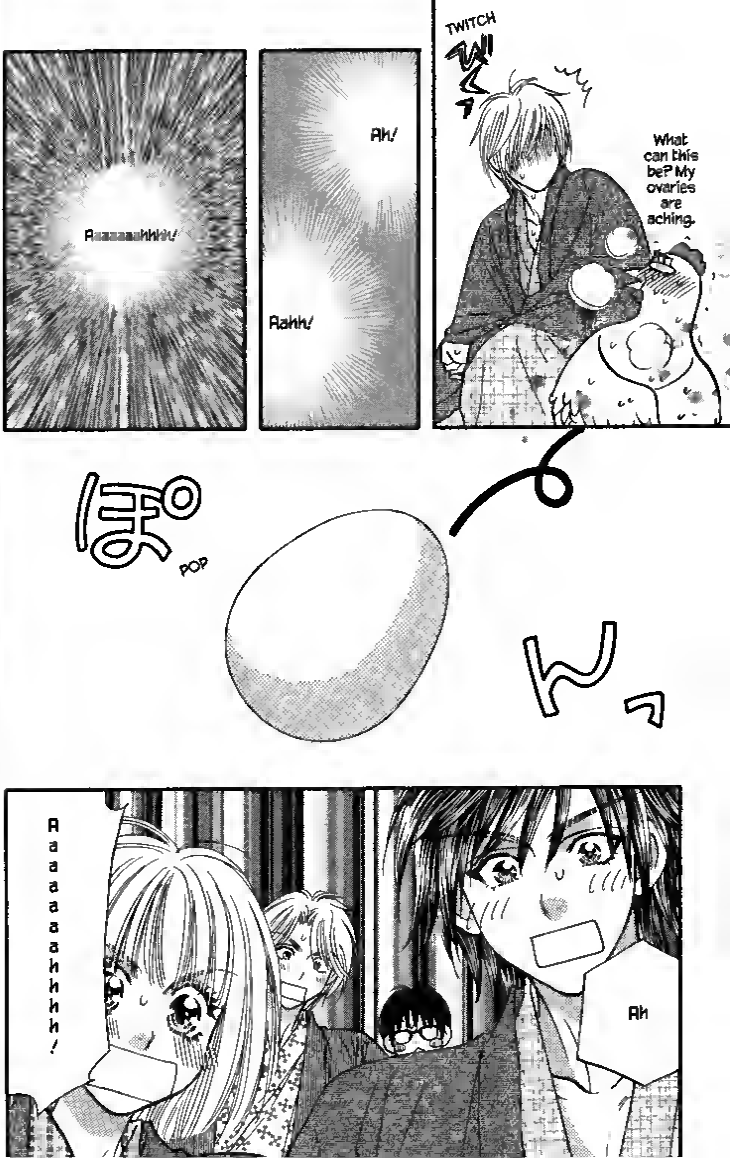
Hey, Izumi. That's not your chicken. You can't just...
It's a general practice to destroy hens that no longer lay eggs! Remember that!
I'll wring your neck!
BAKAWK!
We're humbling ourselves before a freakin' bird, and you get all cocky!
Brother, stop!
No fair! You stopped me earlier!
COUGH
COUGH
KILL!
Don't stop me! We're having local oyako-don for dinner tonight!
That's enough already!
That's terrible! You big men, ganging up on me!
GLINT
Now I'm mad.

Izumi!
Suzuki!
Look ou...
GAH

Owww...
Whew.
Gyaaahh!
KICK
KICK
gh...
Itoigawa-sempai!
Takashi!

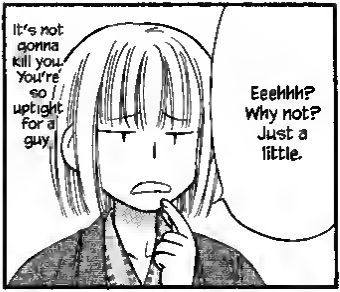
Izumi
Suzuki
Are you all right?

We're over here.
Notice the size.
He never learns...
POP
POP-POP
POP-POP
DA-DUN
DA-DUN


Aaaaaaahhhh!
Ah!
Aahh!
TWITCH
What can this be? My ovaries are aching.
ぽ
POP
ん
Aaaaaaahhhh!
Ah

It's the elusive hot springs egg!
That was tough..
Oohh.
PHEW
HAA
HAA
She laid an egg!
NOD
GIVE
You're giving it away?
To me?
Thank you.

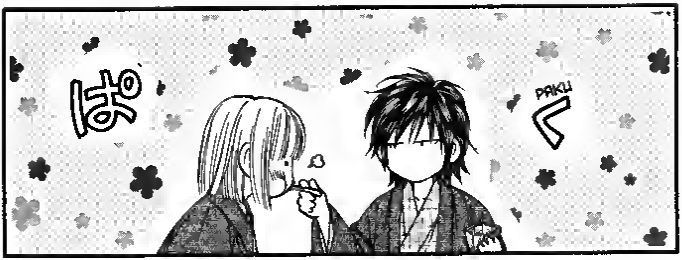
BAWK
BAKAWK!
Yay!
Lucky you.
Here, Izumi.
OOOZE
Is it good?
It's so good, I think I'm gonna die.
Izumi-sempai, you've got it backwards.
You add seven years to your life.
Give me a bite~~~
HAH HAH


It's not gonna kill you. You're so / uptight for a guy.
Eeehhh? Why not? Just a little.

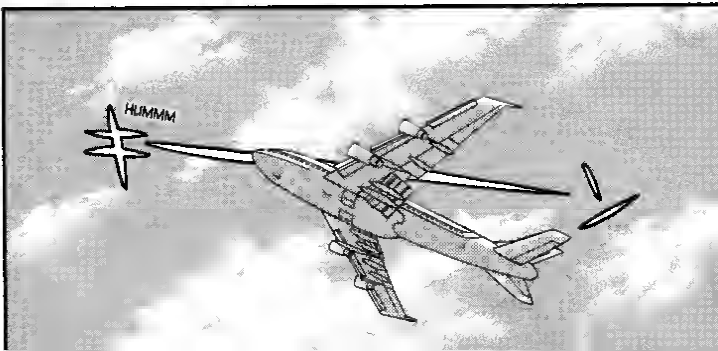
You wiped bird crap on my clothes.
I got it, so it's mine.

DEJECTED
しょんぼり
.....

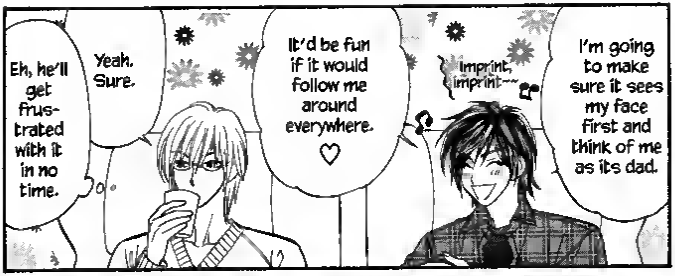
You're hopeless.
Just one bite.

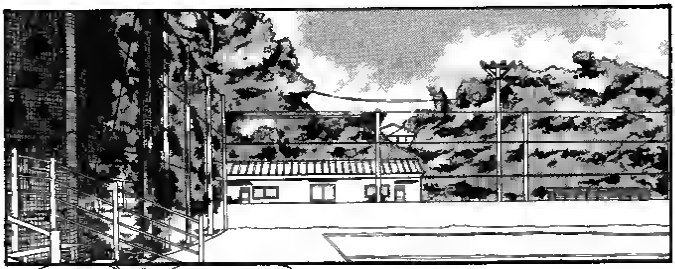

ほ
PAKU

Yummm.
♡
Hana-chan, we have some chicken marinated in apple wine, too.
Men...!
Lucky.
The rest is mine.

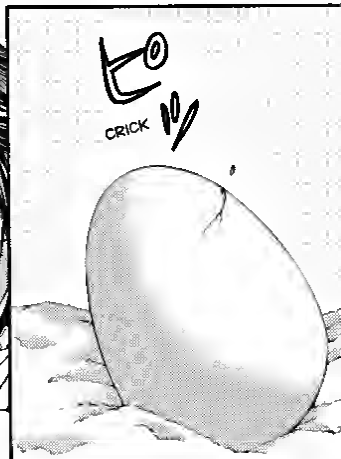

HUMMM

What are you doing, Izumi?
Mmmm-
RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE
SNORE
Here.
They had some fertilized eggs, so I bought one
I thought maybe I could hatch it with my body heat.
I'm trying it out.
Apparently the temperature at my side is just right.
...you plan on holding it all this time?
Forget about chickens.
What if you get one like that one?
I'm hatching it, so of course it's going to be a cute little chick!


Eh, he'll get frustrated with it in no time.
Yeah. Sure.
It'd be fun if it would follow me around everywhere. ♡
imprint imprint~~
I'm going to make sure it sees my face first and think of me as its dad.



It cracked!
You're kidding...
PECK
PECK
PECK


CRICK

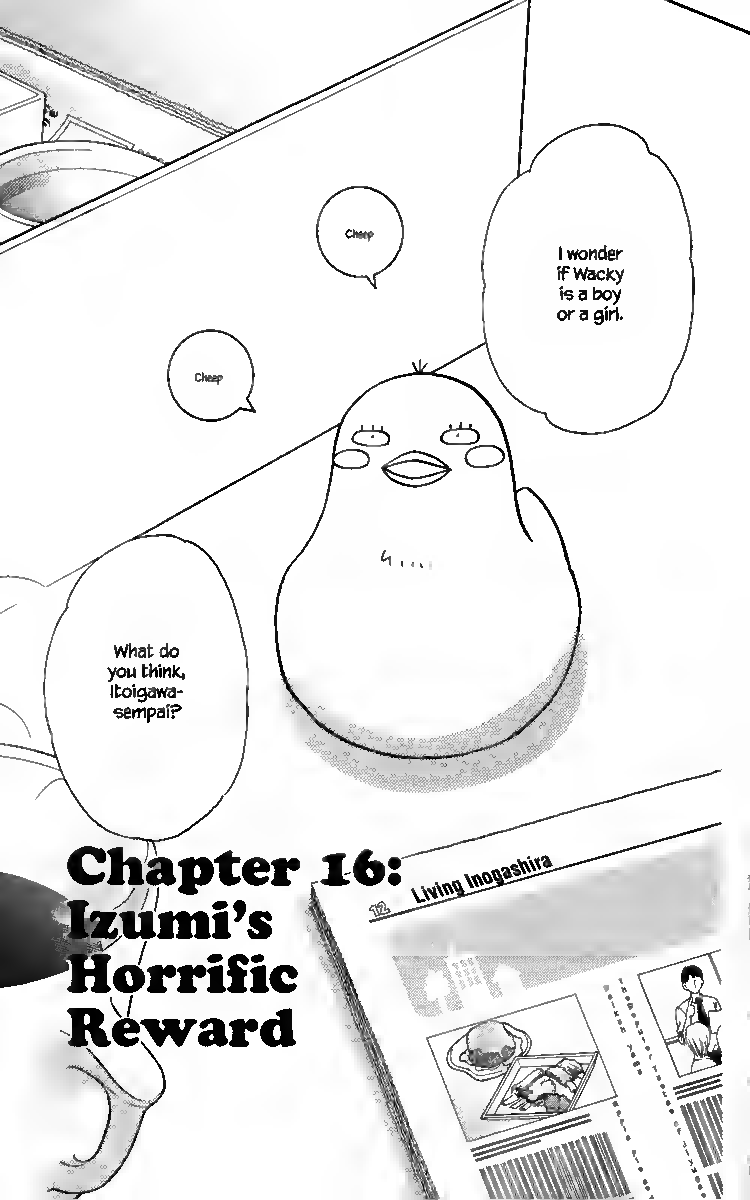
Cool! It's really hatching!
Come on, just a little more!
Your daddy's right here!
Keep going! Just like that!
WHAM
Ah! Sorry!
PRESS
He did have a really hard time with it.
It almost broke tons of times.
Ah ha ha おほほ
It was really something for him to make it this far, after all.
Izumi-sempai looks so happy!
That's it! One more time!
I told you not to give it a weird name!
BARRAM
Izumi-sempai, has Wacky hatched yet?

Cheep
Cheep
Cheep
Ah.
Eh?

AAAAAAAAAHH!
Papa
Cheep
Papa
SHAKE
SHAKE
Don't follow me, Wacky! Your father's over there!
I-Izumi, I'm sorry! I didn't mean to...!
Shoo, shoo!
Cheep
Cheep

じ
WATER
あ
Izumi!!
DASH
TODDLE
TODDLE
TODDLE
Cheep
Cheep
Cheep
Cheep
Cheep
SUNK
じっとり
Maybe I did something wrong.
We still couldn't get a match, but we did get a pet.

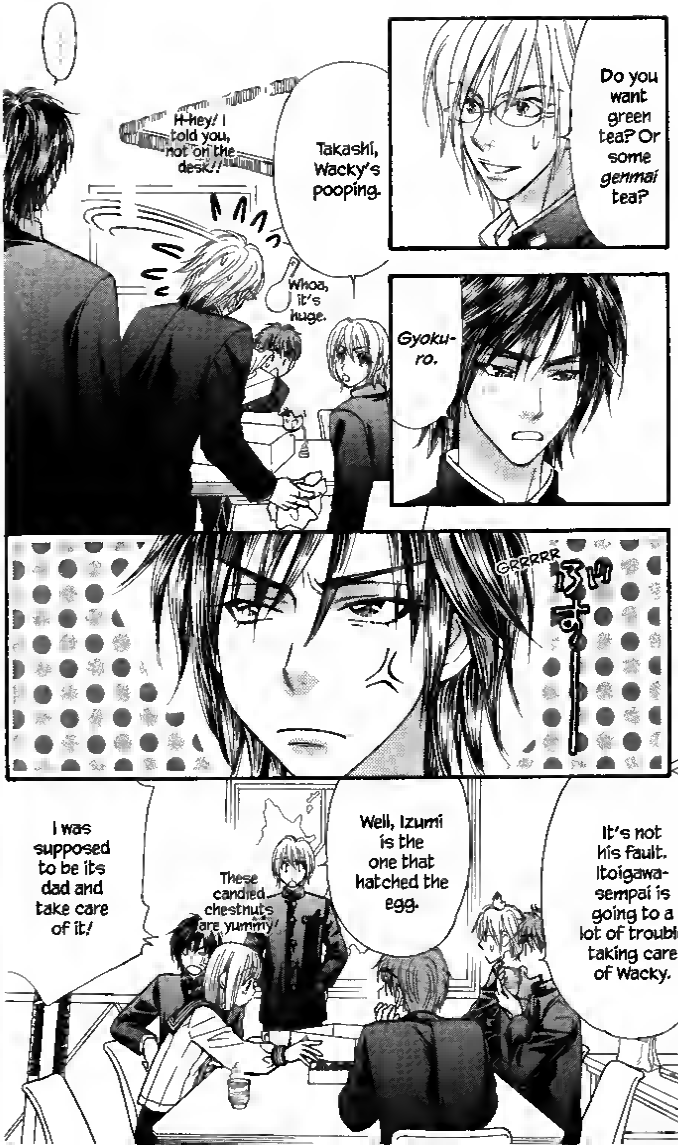
The End



Chapter 16: Izumi's Horrific Reward

Dunno.
You just don't get that I'm not an expert on baby chicks.
How to Raise Chicks
Hey, hey. Can I try to feed it the cabbage left over from my lunch?
Wacky will eat only from your hand, Itoigawa-sempai.
You're so lucky, Itoigawa-sempai.
Here, Wacky
Cheep
Cheep
Chick Food

ALONE
ぽつん
Hey.
Guys.
Here, Wacky.
No good, huh?
And I saved it just for you.
STARE
じぃぃん
Hmph.
It really is attached to you, isn't it, Takashi?
GLOOM
じっとり
Aww
ちっ☆
MUNCH
しゃく
しゃく
FLINCH
ビクッ
Oh, you're here, Izumi.
You should have said something!
I did.
H-here! We have some candied chestnuts to snack on. I'll make some tea.
From Maruwa!
Papa.
Papa.


Do you want green tea? Or some *genmai* tea?
Takashi, Wacky's pooping.
H-hey! I told you, not on the desk!!
Whoa, it's huge.
Gyoku-ro.
GRRRR
I was supposed to be its dad and take care of it!
These candied chestnuts are yummy!
Well, Izumi is the one that hatched the egg.
It's not his fault. Itoigawa-sempai is going to a lot of trouble taking care of Wacky.

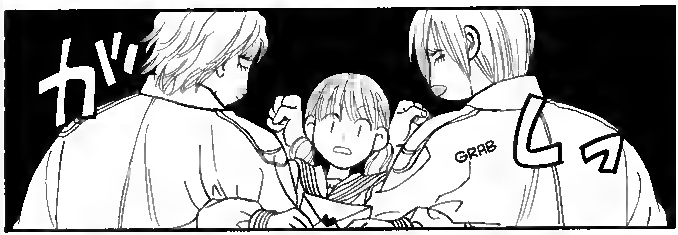
ERGH
What's that mean!? I'm not really—
If you're lonely because it doesn't care about you, why don't you get a girlfriend or something?
Ugh, you're not a little kid.
I-I'm sorry...
Eh?
A girlfriend for Izumi-sempai, huh?
I like that idea.
Well, it would be tough on a guy
But they're a pain!
Well, yeah.
You're a healthy high school boy, Izumi. You want a girlfriend or two, don't you?
No, a chicken isn't...
Itoigawa-sempai has wacky, after all!

REALLY!!?
RATTLE
KABOOM
SHU RU RU RU RU
Waaahh! Where did you people come from!?
How long've you been under the roof!?
KYAA
KYAA
KYAA

Waahh/
What are they thinki—
Today really sucked.
GLACK
Sheesh.
You've had a hard day!!

O-Oda-kun!
Um, here...!
SNAP
DARAHH

You're all still here?
Here are some letters and presents from everyone.
You must have worked hard at club.


GRAB

AAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!
No stealing him for yourself!
Dam. Newbie. Try that again in ten years.

Boys' Restroom
Take care, Oda-kun!
We wish you luck!!
Hurray! Hurray!
Do your best!!
Boys' Restroom
Good work!
Please, have a moist towel!!
Hurrah! Hurrah!
Con-gratu-lations, Oda-sempai!
STEAM ぼか
STEAM ぼか
Cut it out!!
Kyahh!
He's mad
Wow.
Izumi-sempai, you really are popular with girls.
They're all over you. Good for you.
It's like a feast!
KEEP OUT
No Trespassing

Apparently they had an agreement for a long time so it was hard to get near him, but that's been lifted.
But why did they start that all of a sudden?
Must have been a number 2
Good? They cheer me on every time I go to the bathroom! That's not good!
What's that supposed to mean?
We have another bag.
SNAP
You're sharp, Hana-chan.
Aww, it's all gone.
Since they don't know his personality
So is it that he's even more popular because they've only been watching him from a distance?
You guys...
TEAR
RIP
Hmmm.
He says he wants a man.
A man.
Then, you want a man?
I'm done. Women are too much of a pain after all.

Ta-kashi...
You okay, Izumi?
He doesn't like it, so that's enough, guys.
Stop playing.
Yeah. It's easier to start a romance with something that doesn't happen every day.
That'll be perfect for getting a girlfriend.
Oh yeah. It's almost time for the Bunkasai.
Hold on, I'll get you some food.
Okay, okay, Wacky. Oh, I see. You're hungry, are you?
CHEERFUL
cheep
Chirp Food
Suspension bridge love: Attraction for the opposite gender caused by a high-tension situation ♡
Hey, hey, hey!
Pi ha ha ha
I like it. Suspension bridge love, huh?
And Izumi-sempai hates ghosts, so it'll be super-heart-pounding!
It'll be dark and scary, so the cling-rate will go up!
Then how about the hockey club doing a haunted house!?

There is no way I will ever do a haunted house!
Like they said!
Izumi has absolutely no talent for romance, so some drastic measures may be in order.
Right? Hana-chan.
That's right. His talent might awaken in spite of himself.
Anyway, it doesn't matter who, so why not try dating someone?
For the heck of it.
How can you act like it doesn't matter!?
Well, somebody else's romance doesn't matter to me.
MUNCH
MUNCH

These candied chestnuts are *really* good ♡
...
GRRR
Where did you buy them?
I bought it, so don't eat it without my permission!
Ah!
BAH
On second thought, I'll do it. A *haunted house.*
Cheep
Cheep
Cheep
Cheep
TURN
I'll catch a girlfriend with *suspension bridge love!*
This isn't PoXXmon.
Meanie!
H-hey, Izumi.
In that case, let's borrow the classroom in the old school building where they say *there's the ghost of a female teacher who was killed in an accident on her 30th birthday, after failing her 100th miai.*
Since it already has a story.
Oh, that's perfect.
Agreed ♡
Eh...?
え…

ごくり
GULP
...

I can't see ghosts, so it doesn't matter to me.
Dunno. But I hear stories that people have seen her from time to time.
It's kind of rash, but it really is exciting.
H...
Hey. There's not really a ghost here, is there?
I qu—
It's too late to say you quit now.
You're the one who said you're doing it, Izumi.
I
I know!
...but
This place really is kind of...

Eh...?
CHILL
Gyaaahhh!
SPLAT!
Yay! It worked. ♡
Kommyaku is pretty effective.
SPROING
Izumi-sam-pai, what's wroooong~~?
Don't experiment on people like that!

THUD
ぱたり……
I'm worried about how this will play out.
Will Izumi-sempai really be okay doing a haunted house?
Maybe we should have the girls keep just watching from a distance after all
I feel like that way their dreams won't be shattered.
Waahh! Hang in there, Izumi!
I think if Hana-chan were to tell him to stop trying to get a girlfriend, he'd stop right away.
Mm-hm.
Mm-hm.
It's true.
?

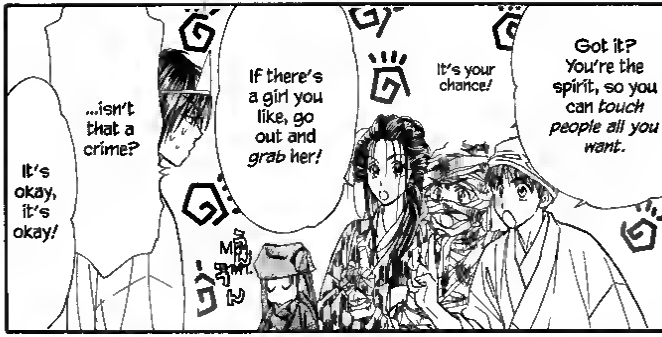
But this is for the *Bunkasai*. Is it okay to call in professionals?
I kind of feel like this is wrong.
You want the light around here?
Okay
It's fine, it's fine.
Ah... Ha Ha Ha
If *we* did it, the *Bunkasai* would be long over by the time we finished.
That's true...

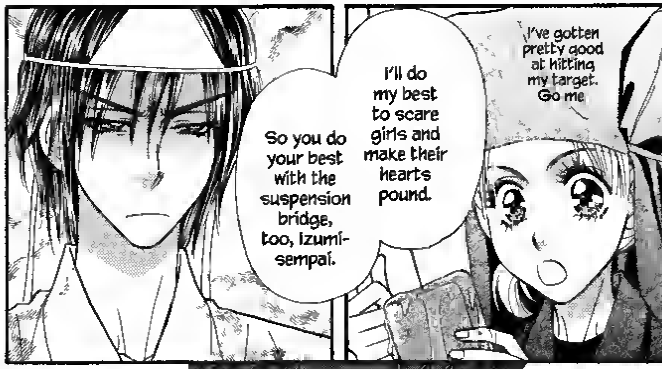
Meiriu Festival

Field Hockey Haunted House
KYAA
KYAA

Wow, that's a long line of girls.
It's quite a sight...
Hana-chan, how does it look out there?
Are there lots of girls?

There are more girls there than at a swim meet with an all-girl audience.
Seems like it's gotten around that Izumi wants a girlfriend.
The girls' information network is really something.
And there are lots of girls from other schools.
C-can we turn on the lights...?
TWITCH
TWITCH
Why would you light up a haunted house?
Izumi-sempai, is your heart pounding?
I feel like my heart'll come out of my nose.
L-like crazy.
Good, good.
That's a good thing.


Got it? You're the spirit, so you can touch people all you want.
It's your chance!
If there's a girl you like, go out and grab her!
...isn't that a crime?
It's okay, it's okay!
Mi
Sa


I've gotten pretty good at hitting my target. Go me
I'll do my best to scare girls and make their hearts pound.
So you do your best with the suspension bridge, too, Izumi-sempai.

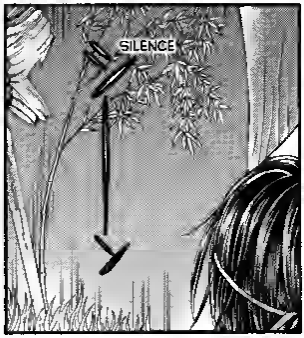
I don't need your help. I can get a girlfriend myself!
Keh
SPLAT
His heart

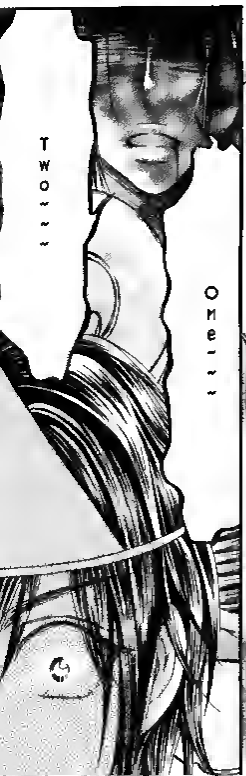
I'm trying to help you out here! What's with the attitude!?
Ticks me off!!
.....
Hey, we're gonna get started soon.
Is everybody ready?
Ah, Itoigawa-sempai.
Since we're all doing this, you wear this and stand at the entrance, Itoigawa-sempai.
We picked one out that we thought'd be good for you.
No, I...
A kappa...?
Takashi.
CLAP
There!

Welcome~~~
JUMP!
SLIME
Augh, man, he makes me mad!
Here I am taking precious sleeping time to help this guy out.
GRRR
GRRR
GRRR
Just a little.
I don't know what they all see in him.
He really is an arrogant jerk.
Oh no. I'm getting sleepy.
I always get sleepy when it's dark.
SPLAT

I don't like that Hana!
GRR ムカ
GRR ムカ
GRR ムカ
GRR ムカ
She kinda makes me mad.
And the other day, she...
SNAP
ZZZZZ
GYAAAAAHH
Eh...?
SNAP
CRACK

Come to think of it, before she hit me with the konnyaku that last time, for a second...
I felt like there was *something*...
DOK!
DOK!
DOK!
DOK!
Wh
What were those sounds?


SILENCE


T W O ~ ~ ~
O n e ~ ~ ~

There's really?
It can't be.
GULP.

The ghost of a female teacher who was killed in an accident on her 30th birthday after failing her 100th *miai*.

Three~
JUMP
GYAAAAAHHH!
D-dammit, Natsuki! Aren't you scaring the wrong person!?
Kyaaaah!
きゃー
Gotcha!
Did your heart pound?
Noises?
And making weird noises?
My soul was coming out of my mouth for a second!!
Ah, oh, sorry.
Uh!
Um!
おず
TREMBLE
Kyaah!
きゃー
Izumi Odagawa
SCRITCH-SCRITCH
Oh.
Thanks.
P-p-p-please, read this!
Go for it, Yuri-chan!

Unlike someone I know.
Y'know, girls
really can be cute.
Emi-chan, I gave it to him!
You're so lucky, Yuri-chan!
I mean, he touched my shoulders.
Kyaa
Kyaa
All right! Now I'm a little more optimistic.
It might be good to really get a girlfriend.
I am in my second year of high school already.
Well, good luck.
Haaaa

COUGH
Kyaaaaaaah! I'm scaaaaaared. ♡♡
Well, we were wondering about your feet. ♡
.....
GRAB
Hey! Let g...
Oh, no more! I'm so scared of all the ghosts. ♡
Rope, rope
TUG
TUG
TUG
Momoko's gonna cry!
GRAB
Ooh
Kyaaahh!
WAAAAAHHH!

Not fair!
Hey, you! Get away from him!
But Momoko is so cute that Oda-kun hugged her.
Shut up, cow!
What did you call me!?
Kyaaaa ♡ I touched him!
TOUCH
Ow!
PLUCK
Ow!
PLUCK
Ooooohhh! I got his hair. ♡
Me too, me too!
It's Izumi-kun!
Ow!
TOUCH
TOUCH
Hey, what are you doing? That's mine!
Stop pulling! I got it first!
EEP
EEP
EEP

That was great back there, wasn't it?
Well? You think you can fall in love?
It was you!? Why'd you do that!
SPLURCH
3-B
SNAP
CRACK
SNAP
These sounds...
Sounds?
CHILL
DRIFT

H-hey.
Did we use real fire to make fireballs?
We couldn't get permission to light fires in the classroom, so no.
So, what's this...?
.....

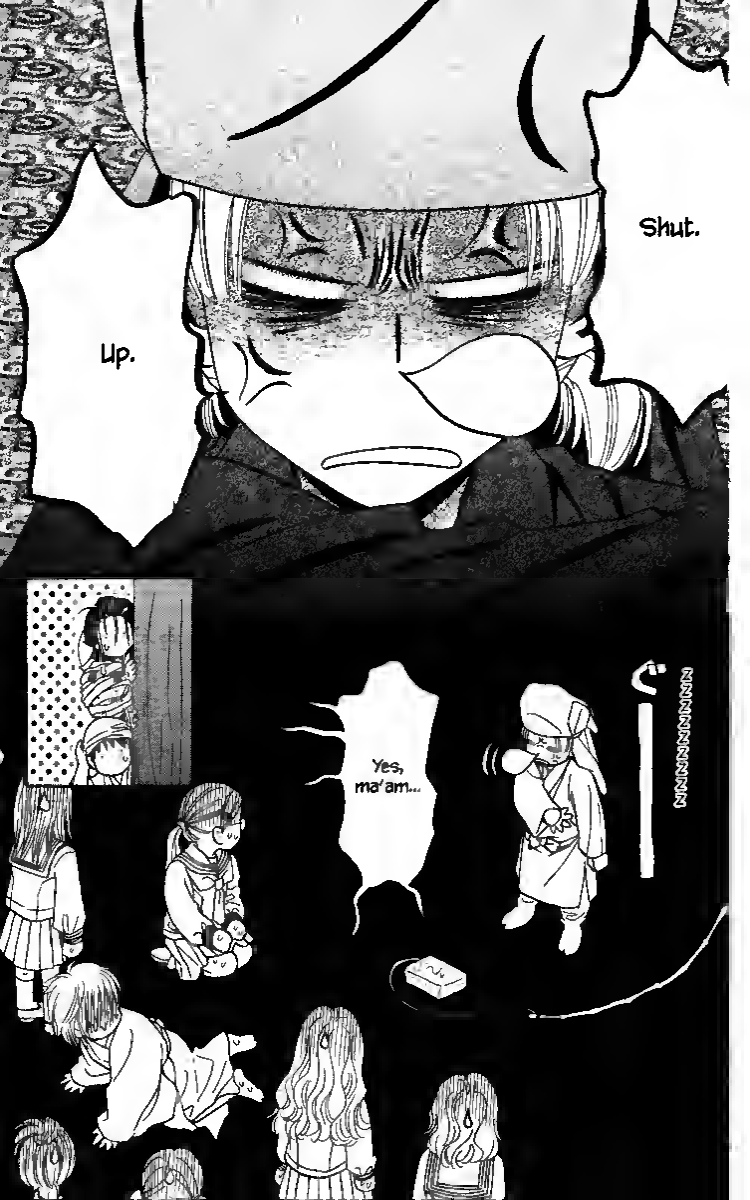
.....
Wai...! I-I can't move!!
Aahh!
DRRRRRHH!
Eep.
We found Oda-sempai!
Ah! There he is!
It's Oda-kun!
TURN

キャ
kyaaaaahhh!
ツツ
It's him! It's really him!
Oda-sempai, I love you!
DOH

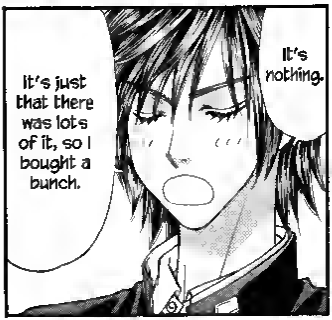
Help me!!

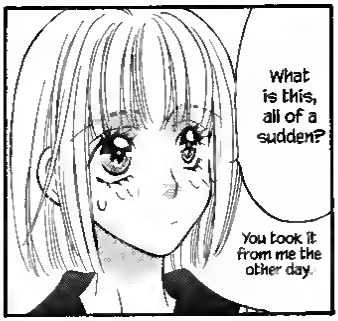
Now I have no more regrets.
I'm so happy.
For the first time ever, I've been held by a man.
Eh?
J-just a...
Oda-sempai, I love you!
Please love me, too! Kyaaaa!
DO
DOH
SCRAMBLE
Don't run away without me!!
Thank you...
Wait...!

I'm done for.
Dad, Mom, please forgive me for dying before you.
ペチーン
SPLAT


Shut.
Up.
ZZZZZZZZZZ
Yes, ma'am...

Huh? Why are there so many candied chestnuts?
It's yours, Hana. You can eat all of it.
Eh. ♡
Um
Cheep
Um
Cheep


It's nothing.
It's just that there was lots of it, so I bought a bunch.


What is this, all of a sudden?
You took it from me the other day.

Don't eat it all at once.
Yay! Thank you so much, Izumi-senpai!
Here, you can have one!
But the suspension bridge plan was a failure, huh?
I guess we couldn't expect it to go that well.
I was kind of asleep.
I don't need a girlfriend right now!
Living girls are scarier than ghosts!!
?
It seems I missed a lot.
But I'm sorry I couldn't help you.
Partway through the Bunkasai, I don't remember anything that happened after.
Cheep
Cheep
Did I fall asleep like Suzuki?
We took pictures, so I'll give you copies once they're printed.
Maybe you were tired because you're not used to taking care of Wacky?

You're spilling, you're spilling!
Aahh, Izumi!
What was that!?
Don't you think taking care of Izumi-sempai is harder than taking care of Wacky?
Mm-hm.
BRRRM
I'm always telling you to use scissors so you don't get it all over the place!
I know, I know.
See, there's another one over there.
KWAH
Wacky.
HOP
Enemy...!!
cheep
As it turned out, Wacky is Female.

The End

Hockey Club Character Profile No.1

Hana Suzuki

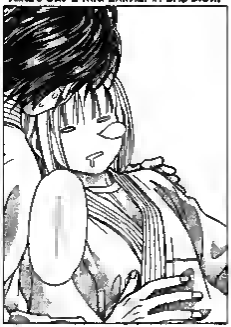
Birthday	May 5th
Blood type	O
Height	5'3"
Hobbies	Sleeping, eating
Special skill	Can go to the bathroom while asleep
Favorite food	Anything yummy
Least favorite food	Anything not yummy
Favorite subject	Cooking
Least favorite subjects	Math, science
Favorite type of guy	None in particular
Other (notes)	Been putting on weight recently

Motto

Good things come to those who sleep!

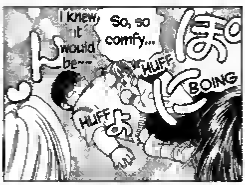
Famous Scene Selections

▼ Aim deep, and strike!! Sleeping power awakens...! She even takes out a wild animal in one blow!



▲ She's so flat that even a monkey laughs at her....

▲ More interested in food than the opposite sex. More interested in sleep than food. Hana lives for sleep



◀ The stomach pillow to which Hana was once a slave, Ôta the Younger ♥

Hockey Club Character Profile No.2

Izumi Oda

Birthday	August 10th
Blood type	O
Height	5'11"
Hobbies	Traveling, hot springs, collecting strange things
Special skill	Can turn his eyelids inside out.
Favorite food	Meat
Least favorite food	Doesn't really have one, but would hate to get fat eating food that tastes bad!
Favorite subject	Geography, English, math
Least favorite subjects	Current events
Favorite type of girl	Neat, tidy, shy, cute girls
Other (notes)	His stomach makes loud noises

Motto

I am the law!

Famous Scene Selections

▼ In front of Hana, he will show expressions like these.♥

▲ Self-proclaimed "Izumi's Fiancée," Tamako is easily possessed by spirits. Even Izumi is overwhelmed...

◀ Frightened Izumi-kun. He sees the ghost's true identity, and it's...a gecko.

▲ Leave leadership to him/... But Izumi is always missing something.

Hockey Club ♨ Character Profile No.3

Takashi Itoigawa

Birthday	January 1st
Blood type	A
Height	6'1"
Hobbies	Reading, watching movies, hot springs
Special skills	Japanese archery, can tie a cherry stem in a knot in his mouth
Favorite food	Meat, fried oysters
Least favorite food	Fish with big scales from ponds or bogs.
Favorite subject	World history, Japanese history, English
Least favorite subjects	Art
Favorite type of girl	Yamato Nadeshiko
Other (notes)	Is liked by animals

Motto

Do what you can, when you can!!

♨ Famous Scene Selections ♨

▲ He's funnier without his glasses. (Eyesight: right 0.02, left 0.03) *right 20/1000, left 20/1500

◀ Because he plays the part of Izumi's dad, he makes dad jokes in spite of himself.

▲ Hama's arch-nemesis, Takashi Itoigawa! He's a man of firm character, but he also has a big attitude.

◀ Be it a Habu snake or Wacky the chick... he has a connection to animals.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

JAL, page 10

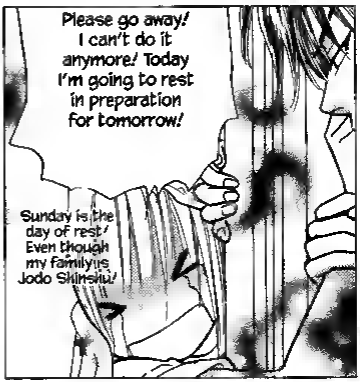
JAL is a common abbreviation for Japan Airlines.

Yôkan, page 24

A jellied sweet made from bean paste.

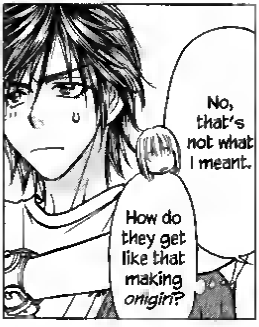
Jodo Shinshu, page 25

The most common religions in Japan are Shinto and Buddhism, and Jodo Shinshu is considered the most widely practiced sect of Buddhism in Japan. Sunday being the day of rest is a Christian practice, and so would not apply to Hana's family's beliefs.


Please go away! I can't do it anymore! Today I'm going to rest in preparation for tomorrow!
Sunday is the day of rest! Even though my family is Jodo Shinshu!

Onigiri, page 33

Kind of like the peanut butter and jelly sandwich of Japan. *Onigiri* literally means "molded" and refers to the fact that this dish is made by molding rice into an oval or triangle shape. Put a salty or sour ingredient in the middle, like a pickled plum or salted salmon, wrap some seaweed around it, and you have a very popular Japanese snack.



Running with bread in your mouth, page 54

Further proof that Izumi is not only a little nuts, but that he watches too much TV. It's an old anime cliché. The show would begin with a character running late to school, holding toast in his mouth because he didn't have time to eat breakfast. Then the character inevitably bumps into someone special, which is usually the start of something big enough to make a whole TV series about.

What are you saying? Everyone knows you crash into her from around the corner with bread in your mouth!
Will this really work?

Hana's awkward request, page 69

In Japanese, there are several levels of language that indicate politeness. Hana sounds so awkward because she's trying to use a polite form of the language, but her manners are so unpracticed that she's struggling.

A guy?, page 69

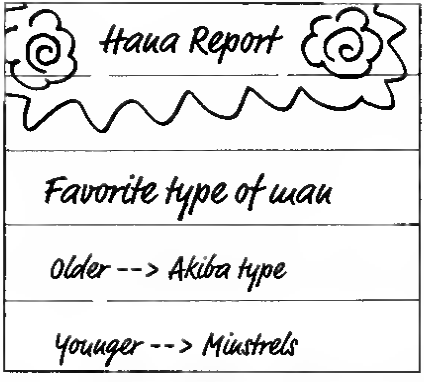
Hana wonders if Masumi is actually a guy, because Masumi used the masculine first-person pronoun *boku* in referring to herself.

Masumi-oneesama, page 70

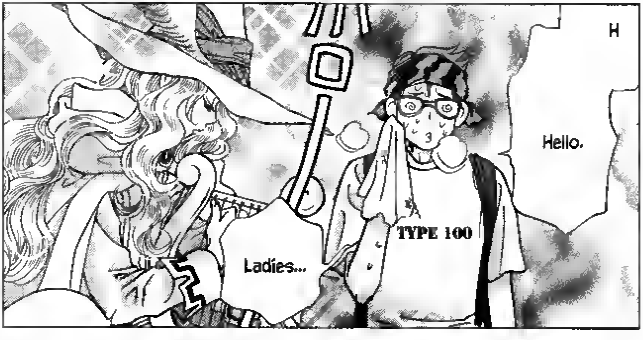
"Oneesama" is a very respectful way of referring to your older sister, or someone you respect like an older sister.

Weighs a ton/Stays at home, page 74

Hana first writes "weighs a ton," then crosses it out and replaces it with "stays at home." She made a mistake in writing down the kanji, so that her first attempt meant something more like "prone to chubbiness."



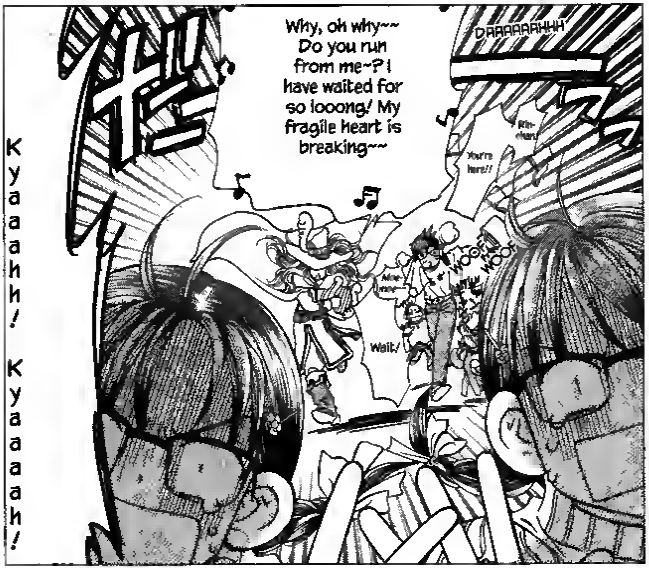
Akiba type, page 74
Akiba is short for Akihabara, a district in Tokyo known for selling lots of computer and electronic goods, but also for selling a lot of anime and *otaku* goods. An "Akiba type" is the kind of guy who would frequent Akihabara—in other words, the ultimate fanboy



Type 100, page 82
Type 100 is a type of Gundam piloted by Char Aznoble, the most infamous villain in the history of the Gundam series

Moe moe, page 83

Moe is a phrase used by fanboys to describe the type of character from an anime or video game that they have a particular attraction to. *Moe moe* is an emphatic way of saying that someone is just his type


Kyaaahh! Kyaaaaah!
Why, oh why~~ Do you run from me~? I have waited for so loooong! My fragile heart is breaking~~
DRAAAAHHH
Ri-chard!
You're here!!
Wait!

Hell tour, page 90

Beppu, where the Hockey Club is currently visiting, is the hot spring capital of Japan and has nine major geothermal hot spots, known as the "nine hells of Beppu" probably because they're so hot. If you toured them all, you would be going on a "hell tour."

Hell baked pudding~~
Steamed dumplings!
Hell tour, hell tour!
We have time, so we could do some sightseeing around Beppu before we go to Yufuin.

Steamed dumplings, hell-baked pudding, and hot springs egg, page 90

The water in the hot springs at Beppu is so hot it is used to cook various delicacies, either with the steam or by boiling. In the case of the pudding, it is put in a covered pan and cooked.

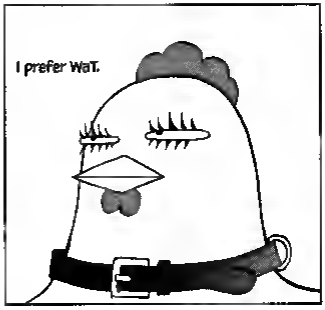
Me too. ♡
Ah! Guys!
I'm interested in this roll cake!
Then, we're off to see the sights. Good luck.
Local oyako-don ♡
This nama tofu looks good.
Beppu: Yufuin, Beppu

Nama tofu and *oyako-don*, page 98

Nama tofu is fresh, cold tofu. *Oyako* literally means "parent and child," and *oyako-don* gets its name from having chicken (the parent) and egg (the child) in a bowl of rice.

WaT, page 101

WaT stands for "Wentz and Teppei." They are the Japanese pop duo Eiji Wentz and Teppei Koike. Clearly, Elisabetta has a crush on Koike-san, who is about 5'6".



Natural monument, page 106

The rooster that Izumi had brought over is so rare and beautiful that it is protected by law as a natural monument or treasure.

Haori, page 110

A short, kimono-like coat worn over a long kimono.

Dom Pérignon, page 110

A very expensive brand of champagne.

Maruwa, page 129

Maruwa is a high-class supermarket chain in southern Japan.

H-here! We have some candied chestnuts to snack on. I'll make some tea.
From Maruwa!
I did.
You should have said something!
Oh, you're here, Izumi.
Papa.
Papa.

Bunkasai, page 137

A *bunkasai*, or culture festival, is held every year by schools in Japan. Students all work together to create attractions, put on plays, and/or sell food.

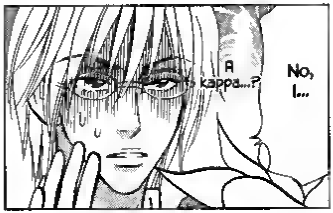
PoXXmon, page 139

It's a common practice in Japanese editions of manga to partially censor the titles of copyrighted material. You can probably guess what "PoXXmon" stands for!

Miai, page 139

A *miai* is a formal interview to arrange a marriage, during which the man and woman in question decide whether or not the other party would be a suitable spouse. Usually, the man and woman in question have not met before, but extensive research has been done on both sides.

Konnyaku, page 142
Jelly made from a pressed vegetable



Kappa, page 148
A *kappa* is a Japanese water demon that lurks in rivers and lakes, performing all sorts of misdeeds ranging from looking up women's kimonos to eating children.

Wondering about your feet, page 154
According to Japanese legend, ghosts don't have feet.

Yamato Nadeshiko, page 169
The term *yamato nadeshiko*, the name of the Japanese pink flower, has come to refer to a woman who displays all the traditional feminine virtues of old Japan.

Jiya, page 169
A jiya is an elderly servant, kind of like a nanny but male.